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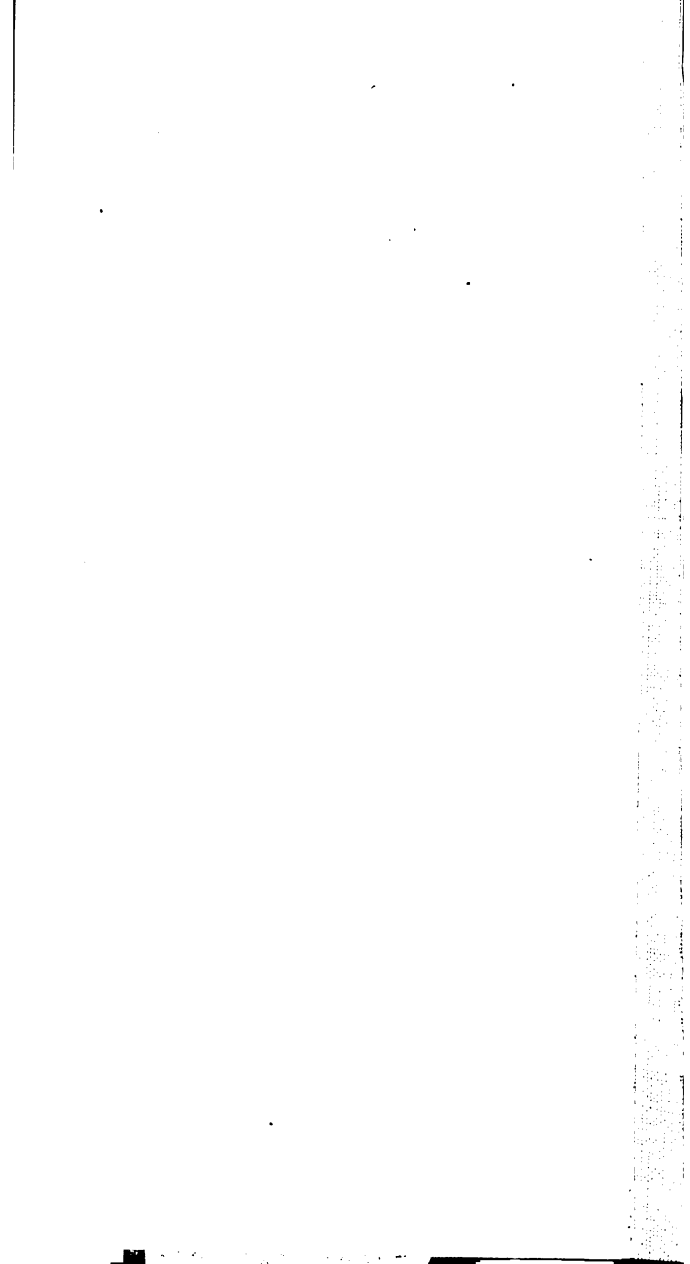
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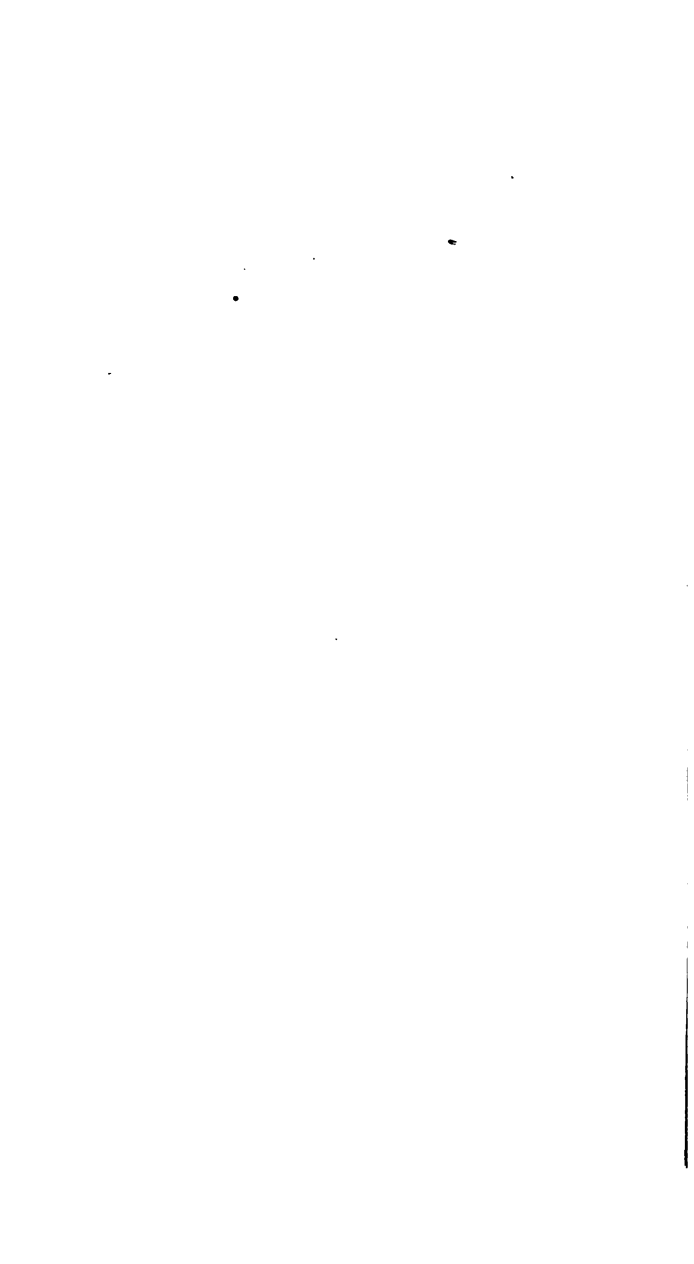
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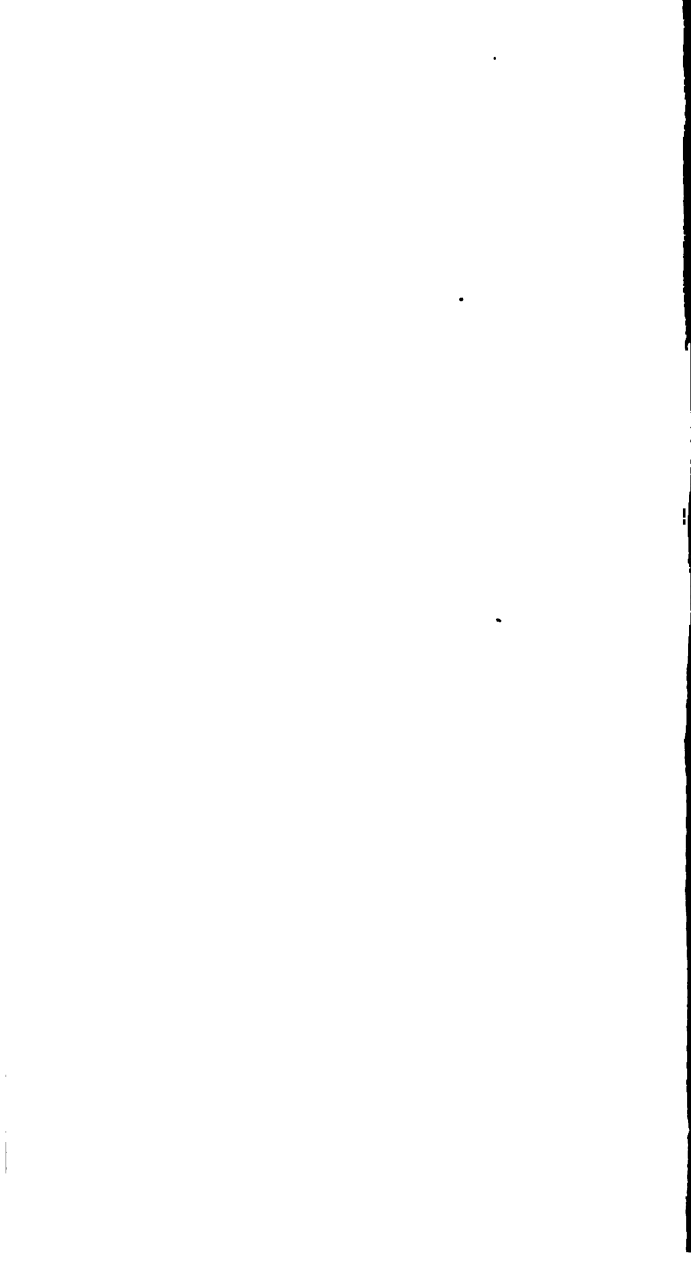
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1. first Building - Kings
and others

C H A R A C T E R S
OF THE
K I N G S A N D Q U E E N S
OF
E N G L A N D,
Selected from different HISTORIES.

V O L. I.

1/2 Port Breda - King's
and rules

CHARACTERS
OF THE
KINGS AND QUEENS
OF
ENGLAND,
Selected from different HISTORIES.

VOL. I.



110

CHARACTERS
OF THE
KINGS AND QUEENS
OF
ENGLAND,
Selected from different HISTORIES;
WITH
OBSERVATIONS and REFLECTIONS,
Chiefly adapted to COMMON LIFE;
And particularly intended for
The INSTRUCTION of YOUTH.
To which are added
NOTES HISTORICAL.

By J. HOLT.

" In History, such Stories should be laid before
" Youth as may catch the Imagination; instead of
" this, they are too frequently obliged to toil
" through the Four Empires as they are called,
" where their Memories are burdened with a number
" of disgusting Stories that destroy all their future
" Relish for our best Historians, who may be termed
" the truest Teachers of Wisdom." GOLDSMITH.

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P R E F A C E.

THE elegant compositions of our historians in delineating the respective characters of illustrious personages, have been usually conceived and expressed by them in such neat language, as to become well pleasing to most, and worthy the perusal of every reader.



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ROYAL CHARACTERS.

A L F R E D.

CHARACTER OF ALFRED, KING OF
ENGLAND.

THE merit of this prince, both in private and public life, may with advantage be set in opposition to that of any monarch or citizen which the annals of any age or any nation can present to us. He seems, indeed, to be the complete model of that perfect character, which, under the denomination of a sage or wise man, the philosophers have been fond of delineating, rather as a fiction of their imagination, than in hopes of ever seeing it reduced to practice: so happily were all his virtues tempered together, so justly were they blended, and

B

so

so powerfully did each prevent the other from exceeding its proper bounds. He knew how to conciliate the most enterprising spirit with the coolest moderation; the most obstinate perseverance with the easiest flexibility; the most severe justice with the greatest lenity; the greatest vigour in command with the greatest affability of deportment; the highest capacity and inclination for science, with the most shining talents for action. His civil and his military virtues are almost equally the objects of our admiration, excepting only, that the former, being more rare among princes, as well as more useful, seem chiefly to challenge our applause. Nature also, as if desirous that so bright a production of her skill should be set in the fairest light, had bestowed on him all bodily accomplishments, vigour of limbs, dignity of shape and air, and a pleasant, engaging, and

and open countenance. Fortune alone, by throwing him into that barbarous age, deprived him of historians worthy to transmit his fame to posterity; and we wish to see him delineated in more lively colours, and with more particular strokes, that we may at least perceive some of those small specks and blemishes, from which, as a man, it is impossible he could be entirely exempted. HUME.

ANOTHER CHARACTER OF ALFRED.

ALFRED, that he might be the better able to extend his charity and munificence, regulated his finances with the most perfect œconomy, and divided his revenues into a certain number of parts, which he appropriated to the different expences of the state, and the exercise of his own private liberality and devotion; nor was he a less œconomist in the distribution of his time,

4. ROYAL CHARACTERS.

which he divided into three equal portions, allotting one to sleep, meals, and exercise; and devoting the other two to writing, reading, business, and prayer. That this division might not be encroached upon inadvertently, he measured them by tapers of an equal size, which he kept continually burning before the shrines of relics. Alfred seemed to be a genius self-taught, which contrived and comprehended every thing that could contribute to the security of his kingdom. He was author of that inestimable privilege, peculiar to the subjects of this nation, which consists in their being tried by their peers; for he first instituted juries, or at least improved upon an old institution, by specifying the number and qualifications of jurymen, and extending their power to trials of property as well as criminal indictments: but no regulation redounded
more

more to his honour and the advantage of his kingdom, than the measures he took to prevent rapine, murder, and other outrages, which had so long been committed with impunity. His attention stooped even to the meanest circumstance of his people's conveniency. He introduced the art of brick-making, and built his own houses of those materials; which being much more durable and secure from accidents than timber, his example was followed by his subjects in general. He was, doubtless, an object of most perfect esteem and admiration; for, exclusive of the qualities which distinguished him as a warrior and legislator, his personal character was amiable in every respect. Died 897, aged 52. SMOLLETT.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE CHARACTER OF
ALFRED.

IN reading over the character of this prince, our attention is raised by the energetic language of the two historians here quoted, striving to exhibit a finished and perfect picture.

It is not unusual for historians, in closing their account of the lives of kings and heroes, to exert their utmost abilities in painting the characters of their favourites in the most vivid colours, consonant to their respective opinions *.

* “The drawing of characters is one of the most
“splendid, and at the same time one of the most
“difficult ornaments of historical composition:
“for characters are generally considered fine
“writing; and an historian, who seeks to shine
“in them, is frequently in danger of carrying
“refinements to excess, from a desire of appear-
“ing very profound and penetrating.”

BLAIR.

In

In these trials of skill, we should not be too easily seduced by their art ; but let our reason still judge of men and things, as we have by experience found them exist in the great volume of nature.

In adhering to this rule, we shall perceive, to our great regret, that we know no one who deserves this high panegyric. Among the best of characters we still find but too many imperfections ; nay, one of Alfred's historians (Hume) acknowledges a wish to see him " delineated in more lively colours, " and with more particular strokes, that " we may at least perceive some of " those small specks and blemishes " from which, as a man, he could not " be entirely exempted *."

Pity it is, that the acknowledged frailties of humanity should enforce such a confession !

* Hume.

Of such excellencies as are handed down to us, let us examine which is the most likely to be useful for the practice of common life. And herein his admirable conduct in the distribution of his time claims our especial attention, inasmuch as it is in every one's power to profit by his example in this particular. "He was an œconomist in the distribution of his time, which he divided into three different portions, allotting one to sleep, meals, and exercise; and devoting the other two to writing, reading, and prayer."

The short duration of the longest life; the quick succession of days, months, and years; the profuse waste and misapplication of this short duration, and uncertainty of its long continuance; are such important TRUTHS, and so frequently repeated, that imagination is at
a loss

a loss to conceive how we can resolve to treat them with so much levity.

Yet even the best-disposed are obliged to acknowledge how much of their time is consumed in complying with fashionable customs ; how much is lost by ceremonies and etiquettes, which the forms of civility cannot forego ; in paying morning visits, and meeting evening parties. Add to these the time necessary for bodily exercise, to preserve our faculties in vigour ; and sleep, to renew the wearied spirits ; the tedious hours of sickness, with the deduction of the period of infancy ; and how small is the portion for energetic action*!

These

* " The difference between rising every morning
 " at six, and eight, in the course of forty years,
 " supposing a person to go to bed at the same
 " time he otherwise would, amounts to 29,200
 " hours, or 3 years 121 days and 16 hours,
 " which will afford eight hours a day for exactly

These several deductions are common to every individual of our species. Yet the fashionable practices of the present age have added some more, by way of *killing*, as the phrase is, what can never again be *created* under the name of entertainment, by sitting for hours together, as is but too common among our *fair* friends, round a card-table, to the probable loss of their property; it may be loss of temper, but *total* and *certain* loss of time; and where, instead of displaying their charms to the best advantage, by preserving a tranquil mind, a heart chearful and composed;—such a distorted countenance may be

“ ten years; so that it is the same as if ten years
 “ of life (a weighty consideration) were added,
 “ in which we may command eight hours every
 “ day for the cultivation of our minds, and the
 “ dispatch of business.”

From the General Evening Post,
 June 8, 1785.

exhibited

exhibited to the spectator, as no young female would wish to see reflected from her mirror.

My young friends, let me earnestly recommend to you, “to be careful economists in the distribution” of your precious moments in this stage of your life more especially; since, once habituated to the practice, you will hardly ever afterwards think of deviating from it, by perceiving the happy effects produced; and which nothing seems so likely to effectually secure, as following the example of this good old king, of allotting certain portions to particular actions, and adhering, as closely as circumstances will admit, to so wise a distribution, which may contribute no little to our happiness both here and hereafter.

NOTES HISTORICAL.

* * In the year 1000 the price of an ox was two shillings and sixpence, equal to seven and sixpence of our silver money ; and if every other necessary was proportionably cheap, the difference of living then and now is as twenty-seven to one, valuing an ox at this time, of ten pounds value, at two shillings and sixpence only ; that is, living in our days is twenty-seven times as dear as it was in the year 1000 *.

The following may suggest a number of reflections concerning the different estimations of things, and the different tastes and desires of mankind, in different periods. What is our surprise now-a-days to see, that, by the established laws of this island, the price of a hawk or greyhound was once the very same with the price of a man ; and that there was a time, when robbing a hawk's nest was as great a crime in the eye of the law, and as severely punished, as the murder of a human creature † !

* Anderson's Chronological Deductions.

† Leges Wallice, quoted by Henry.

State of the English language, from a specimen of the Lord's Prayer, which was said to have been translated by the Great Alfred, as follows :

“ Feder ure thee earth on heofenum : fi thin Nama Gihal god to be com thin Rice, Gewurthie thin willa on earthan swa swa on heofnum, urne ge daeghevanlican hlaf fyle us to day, and forgyf us ure gyltas, swa swa we forgyfeth Urum Gyltendum, and ore gelaede thu us on coðnug. Ac aylfe us of yflic. Amen.”

WILLIAM

WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR.

CHARACTER OF WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR.

FEW princes have been more fortunate than this great monarch, or were better entitled to prosperity and grandeur for the abilities and vigour of mind which he displayed in all his conduct. His spirit was bold and enterprising, yet guided by prudence. His ambition, which was exorbitant, and lay little under the restraints of justice, and still less under those of humanity, ever submitted to the dictates of reason and sound policy. Born in an age when the minds of men were intractable and unacquainted with submission, he was yet able to direct them to his purposes; and, partly from the ascendant of his vehement

hement disposition, partly from art and dissimulation, to establish an unlimited monarchy. Though not insensible to generosity, he was hardened against compassion, and seemed equally ostentatious and ambitious of eclat in his clemency and his severity. The maxims of his administration were severe ; but might have been useful, had they been solely employed in preserving order in an established government : they were ill calculated for softening the rigours which under the most gentle management are inseparable from conquest. His attempt against England was the last enterprize of the kind, which, during the course of seven hundred years, has fully succeeded in Europe ; and the greatness of his genius broke through those limits, which first the feudal institutions, then the refined policy of princes, have fixed on the several states
of

16 ROYAL CHARACTERS.

of Christendom. Though he rendered himself infinitely odious to his English subjects, he transmitted his power to his posterity, and the throne is still filled by his descendants; a proof that the foundation which he laid was firm and solid, and that amongst all his violences, while he seemed only to gratify the present passion, he had still an eye towards futurity. Died September 9, 1087, aged 63 *. HUME.

ANOTHER CHARACTER OF WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR.

FROM the transactions of William's reign, he appears to have been a prince of great courage; capacity and ambition; politic, cruel, vindictive, and rapacious; stern and haughty in his de-

* Smollett says, 61.

portment,

portment, reserved and jealous in his disposition. He was fond of glory, and, though parsimonious in his household, delighted much in ostentation. Though sudden and impetuous in his enterprizes, he was cool, deliberate, and indefatigable, in times of danger and difficulty. His aspect was nobly severe and imperious, his stature tall and portly; his constitution robust, and the composition of his bones and muscles strong; there was hardly a man of that age, who could bend his bow, or handle his arms.

SMOLLETT.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE CHARACTER OF WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR.

WE observe very little variation in the character which the historians have given of this prince, except what arises
from

from difference of expression; and the same observation may extend to many other characters here selected: for in these dark ages, when historians were scarce, facts were but indifferently preserved. As therefore the accounts handed down to posterity were few, and succeeding writers must collect from the same source; they could only delineate features from the scanty materials given, according to their conception of the facts, and by the powers of their several abilities: it is in vain to expect any particular *tints*, other than such as are derived from the colouring of imagination.

WILLIAM was duke of Normandy, a province in France. His pretensions to the crown of England were grounded on a will Edward the Confessor was said to have made in his favour. In support of this claim, he entered the kingdom

dom

dom with a powerful army; and defeated the English in a hard-fought battle, which continued, as history informs us, from morning till sun-set, and which decided the fate of a mighty kingdom. William had three horses killed under him, and there fell fifteen thousand on the side of the NORMANS, with a much greater loss on that of the vanquished, besides the death of the king (Harold) and his two brothers: and thus WILLIAM obtained the crown of England, with the name of Conqueror.

Why the GIVER of life should endow his frail mortals with such cruel propensities we know not; but, since he is a God of MERCIES, we are to suppose for some useful purpose, to us at present unknown. Yet HUMANITY shudders at the recital of thirty thousand fellow-creatures sacrificed in one day at the shrine of ambition.—But when we take
into

into this account the mutilated limbs and agonizing wounds of survivors; the forrowing parents widowed wives, and helpless orphans; living subjects, who partake of, and suffer under this dreadful carnage; how widely do such feelings become extended!

Leaving such pictures, as cruel as to us incomprehensible in this vale of darkness; let us rather search for some quality in this character deserving our imitation.

Among the children of men, we frequently perceive some strong characteristic marks, so widely distant from the rest, that we are at a loss to account for their existence in the same person.

“William was cruel, vindictive, rapacious, stern, and haughty in his deportment, and jealous in his disposition; but cool, deliberate, and indefatigable *.”

* Smollett.

However

However we may condemn some of these qualities, we cannot too much recommend the concluding part of the above quoted passage to the consideration of youth.

For, PERSEVERANCE in the most arduous undertakings, with deliberate proceeding, joined to coolness of conduct, will, almost to a certainty, ensure a successful issue. But the remove from the fostering care of parental affection may have been too rapid; and the timid youth feels himself embarrassed upon entering the path of active life; with perceiving surrounding and unexpected difficulties; the falsity of pretended friendship, and the obstruction of open enmity, which too evidently disclose the "baseless foundation of some visionary fabric."

Then *Discontent* summons a council; in this court of enquiry, *Sensibility* repines

24 ROYAL CHARACTERS.

two green geese if he came in summer ; and three eels in winter ; all which he was bound to do thrice in a year, if the king came so often,

A. D. 1080, The following brief charter granted to London by William the Conqueror.

“ That all burgeses, French and English, be law-worthy, as in king Edward’s days ; and that each child be his father’s heir ; and I will that no wrong be done you.”

A. D. 1081. About this date, in a time of tranquillity, was taken the famous survey of England, entered into *Doomsday* book. The survey was conducted by commission, taking information upon oath in each county ; the name of every town and village ; who held it in king Edward’s days ; who now possessed it ; how many freemen, villains, and cottagers were in it ; how many hides of land in each manor ; how many of these were in the demesne ; how much woodland, meadow, and pasture ; how much it paid in taxes in king Edward’s days, and how much now ; how many mills and fish ponds ; and in some places they took an account of the horses, black cattle, swine, sheep, and hives of bees. This invaluable work has lately been given to the publick by the munificence of parliament.

WILLIAM

WILLIAM RUFUS.

CHARACTER OF WILLIAM RUFUS, KING
OF ENGLAND.

THE memory of this monarch is transmitted to us with little advantage by the Churchmen, whom he had offended; and though we may suspect in general that their account of his vices is somewhat exaggerated, his conduct affords little reason for contradicting the character which they have assigned him, or for attributing to him any very estimable qualities: he seems to have been a violent and tyrannical prince; a perfidious, encroaching, and dangerous neighbour; an unkind and ungenerous relation. He was equally prodigal and rapacious in the management of the treasury; and, if he possessed abilities,

C

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he lay so much under the government of impetuous passions, that he made little use of them in his administration; and he indulged entirely the domineering policy which suited his temper, and which, if supported, as it was in him, with courage and vigour, proves often more successful in disorderly times, than the deepest foresight and most refined artifice. The monuments which remain of this prince in England are, the Tower, Westminster Hall, and London Bridge, which he built. Died August 2, 1100, aged 40.

HUME.

ANOTHER

ANOTHER CHARACTER OF WILLIAM
RUFUS, KING OF ENGLAND.

THUS fell William*, furnamed Rufus, from his red hair and florid complexion, after he had lived four and forty years, and reigned near thirteen; during which time he oppressed his people in every form of tyranny and insult. He was equally void of learning, principle, and honour; haughty, passionate, and ungrateful; a scoffer at religion, a scourge to the clergy; vain-

* By the hand of Tyrrel, a French gentleman, remarkable for his address in archery, attending him in the recreation of hunting, as William had dismounted after a chase. Tyrrel, impatient to shew his dexterity, let fly at a stag which suddenly started before him; the arrow glancing from a tree struck the king in his breast, and instantly slew him.

C 2

glorious,

glorious, talkative, rapacious, lavish, and dissolute ; and an inveterate enemy to the English, though he owed his crown to their valour and fidelity, when the Norman lords intended to expel him from the throne. In return for this instance of their loyalty, he took *all* opportunities to fleece and enslave them ; and at one time imprisoned fifty of the best families in the kingdom, on pretence of killing his deer ; so that they were compelled to purchase their liberty at the expence of their wealth, though not before they had undergone the *fiery ordeal*. He lived in a scandalous commerce with prostitutes, professing his contempt for marriage ; and, having no legitimate issue, the crown devolved to his brother Henry, who was so intent upon the succession, that he paid very little regard to the funeral of the deceased king.

SMOLLETT.

OBSER-

OBSERVATIONS ON THE CHARACTER OF
WILLIAM RUFUS.

THE imperious and tyrannical character of this king is a quality so unbecoming *frail creatures*, that it never can dignify the sceptered monarch, however strong his hand, however extended his power : much less those sons of men in authority, whose fellow-creatures are ministering in their service to supply their daily wants. Such characters, therefore, are unworthy our imitation : nevertheless, William's unhappy fate, killed by the stroke of an arrow, when pursuing his favourite diversion of stag-hunting, may become an useful lesson to check an immoderate pursuit after pleasure. Yet what young heart does not beat at the name of DIVERSION, and

anticipate unbounded satisfaction in the enjoyment thereof? Long may their minds possess peace, united to health of body to partake such pleasures as are suitable to our rank, sex, and age! And in general it may be granted, that such diversions are surely warrantable as tend to bodily exercise, recruiting the wearied spirit, improving the mind, or, *negatively*, by relaxing from the severer duties of life. To point out which is *best* is not so easy, since different dispositions require different amusements; but, in general, we may observe, that dancing, riding on horseback, musick, &c. are, in themselves, not only *innocent*, but tend to exhilarate the spirits, and exercise the body. Of riding on horseback, indeed, we may just remark, although the practice of late is become *fashionable*, and to sit a horse gracefully is reckoned no trifling accomplishment
among

among the *fair*, still it has its bounds; for neither the delicacy of the sex, nor the dress peculiar to it, seem consistent with the ladies entering the list in a fox-chace; and we may venture to assert, however dextrous a *female* may be in the management of her steed, she will never gain much admiration by displaying her dexterity in the *field*.

But if the rougher sex by this fierce sport
Is hurried wild, let not such horrid joy
E'er stain the bosoms of the British fair.
Far be the spirit of the chace from them!
Uncomely courage, unbeseeming skill,
To spring the fence, to rein the prancing
steed;

The cap, the whip, the masculine attire,
In which they roughen to the sense, and all
The winning softness of the sex is lost.

THOMSON.

Of the government of the temper, we may observe, that, putting morality out of the question, the advantages of keep-

ing the passions under subordination, are great and numerous; and to effect this desirable conquest, probably the education of youth upon a more extended scale might, in some degree, contribute; by which is meant, instructing them in the duties of *economy*, and the practice of the *necessary arts*, which, besides being likely to render them more valuable masters and mistresses of families, by teaching them a discernment of the *good* or *ill* conduct of their domesticks, the more essential inference we should draw from it is, that these studies might teach them how to *commiserate* those who earn their living by the sweat of their brow, by making a proper estimate of the many comforts obtained by their means, from a due knowledge already acquired of the labour and difficulty in procuring them for us. And it is an allowed maxim, that those, who govern

govern with a steady but meek spirit, are most generally served with chearfulness of heart : nor let any one despise these qualifications, for knowledge of whatever kind is light of carriage, the easiest burden to be borne ; and for one that complains of an overstock of learning, how many do we daily hear regret their ignorance of many things, which, at one period of their life, were deemed beneath their attention ! and it is hoped, the time is yet far distant, however refined the manners of the present age, when a needle will be deemed a disgrace in the hand of a lady.

In a word, both in the government of the temper, and the moderate enjoyment of diversion, let this prince's unhappy fate be a warning, lest we fall a sacrifice in the pursuit ; for the sparkling cup may contain a mortal draught ;

the stings of unchaste desire may pierce through the vitals; the winged shaft may stop the career, and put a period to our existence. So perished William Rufus.

NOTES HISTORICAL

* * A. D. 1090. The streets of London were not then paved, but a moorish ground. A violent tempest having blown down the roof of St. Mary le Bow Church, in Cheapside, four of the rafters, of twenty feet in length, were pitched in the ground of that street, that scarcely five feet of them remained *above ground*.

We should not fail to remark, that this prince caused the Tower, Westminster-Hall, and London-Bridge, to be built during his reign; monuments which are standing to this day. And although we should credit the other traits in his character, as given above, yet it proves how cautious we should be in yielding our assent in general;

ral; since such works must be the effect of superior abilities, industry, and frugality, and are more to be commended, as they were efforts when the arts were little cultivated, artificers scarce, and consequently such enterprizes less common, and more difficult to execute, than in modern times.

HENRY I.

CHARACTER OF HENRY I. KING OF
ENGLAND.

THIS prince was one of the most accomplished that has filled the English throne ; and possessed all the qualities both of body and mind, natural and acquired, which could fit him for the high station to which he attained : his person was manly ; his countenance engaging ; his eyes clear, serene, and penetrating. The affability of his address encouraged those who might be overawed by the sense of his dignity or his wisdom ; and though he often indulged his facetious humour, he knew how to temper it with discretion, and ever kept at a distance from all indecent familiarities with his courtiers. His superior eloquence

eloquence and judgement would have given him an ascendant, even if he had been born in a private station; and his personal bravery would have procured him respect, even though it had been less supported by art and policy. By his great progress in literature, he acquired the name of *Beau Clerc*, or the Scholar; but his application to sedentary pursuits abated nothing of the activity and vigilance of his government: and though the learning of that age was better fitted to corrupt than improve the understanding; his natural good sense preserved itself untainted both from the pedantry and superstition which were then so prevalent among men of letters. His temper was very susceptible of the sentiments as well of friendship as resentment; and his ambition, though high, might be esteemed moderate, had not his conduct towards his brother shewed,

that he was too much disposed to sacrifice to it all the maxims of justice and equity. Died December 1, 1135, aged 67, having reigned 35 years.

HUME.

ANOTHER CHARACTER OF HENRY I.

HENRY was of a middle stature and robust make, with dark brown hair, and blue serene eyes. He was facetious, fluent, and affable to his favourites. His capacity, naturally good, was improved and cultivated in such a manner, that he acquired the name of *Beau Clerc* by his learning. He was cool, cautious, politic, and penetrating; his courage was unquestioned, and his fortitude invincible. He was vindictive, cruel, and implacable, inexorable to offenders, rigid and severe in the execution

cution of justice ; and, though temperate in his diet, a voluptuary in his amours, which produced a numerous family of illegitimate issue. His Norman descent and connections with the Continent inspired him with a contempt for the English, whom he oppressed in the most tyrannical manner. SMOLLET.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE CHARACTER OF
HENRY I.

How amiable are bodily accomplishments, when embellished with cultivated intellects ! and how useful these talents, when properly regulated ! “ Henry “ had all the qualities both of body and “ mind, natural and acquired, which “ could fit him for the high station “ which he attained *.”

* Huine.

A lesson is here given, my young friends, worthy the imitation of every aspiring youth, not to trust too much to the specious recommendation of a pleasing well-proportioned shape, muscular strength, or agility of limbs, so as to cause a neglect of the cultivation of the more durable qualities of the mind, for Henry had ALL the qualities both of body and mind, &c.

It has been observed, of the *fair sex* more particularly, that many young persons, who have had the least to boast of personal charms, have been known to make up that defect by greater attention in the several branches of their education, and acquire superiority by assiduity in the pursuit of knowledge; in subduing the passions, and studying the graces.

If, therefore, the outward form which has so many attractions may be
eclipsed

eclipsed by a cultivated mind, how incumbent is it upon every one, who aspires at eminence, to *bear the yoke in his youth*! But whether the *accomplishments* be natural or acquired, of all things beware of VANITY. The true-bred person, and sound scholar, never makes a parade; *sterling merit*, such as cannot be disputed, incites no desire in the owner to boast; conscious of its own *weight*, it is never intimidated with fear, lest that, when tried in the scale, it should be *found wanting*; but this *fear* causes no small uneasiness, upon many occasions, to the vain pretender.

Whilst we deprecate VANITY, let us endeavour to enforce MODESTY, a virtue which graces all ages, ranks, conditions, or sex, but more especially becoming youth in subordinate stations. It is the interest of every one to *appear* modest at least; so true is the saying of
him

him who knew human nature well :
*“ That whosoever exalteth himself shall be
 “ abased, but he that humbleth himself
 “ shall be exalted.”* And in this consists
 those civilities in society which custom
 has established into certain laws ; name-
 ly, learning how to forget oneself, by
 a readiness to oblige, &c. rendering
 others easy and happy, by attending to
 their wants ; in short, by a complaisant
 behaviour manifested to every one, as
 if we intended to sacrifice our own feel-
 ings to the prevailing tempers of the
 company present.

Hence, we accustom ourselves to say,
 and subscribe even to inferiors, *your
 very-humble servant—I beg, Sir—May I
 presume, &c. &c.* with a large catalogue
 of such humble phrases. Nor is this
 species of humility confined to *words*
 only, our *actions* too must correspond ;
 for the rules of politeness require that
 we

we should yield up the uppermost seat :
—let others pass *first*, and always appear grateful when these attentions are paid to ourselves.

“ Henry had moreover a facetious
“ humour, which he knew how to
“ temper.”

A cheerfulness of disposition, joined to a facetious humour, are qualities so universally pleasing, and so eagerly is such company embraced, that the votaries of pleasure search after it in all places of entertainment, in hopes to partake of its sympathetic influence.

Hence the sanguine youth, who wishes to derive pleasure from every quarter, and dispense it again as liberally as it was given, soon finds his cheerful disposition and facetious stories render him so welcome a visitor to every company, that he cannot forbear the sweet intercourse. But mark the consequence.—

HOMER

HOME and domestic endearments grow insipid — BUSINESS becomes irksome — Embarrassments to fulfill his lawful engagements crowd thick upon him — the GLASS is sought after, as a cordial to raise the drooping spirit, and bury desponding thought — a broken constitution and ruined estate soon ensue ; for, although these be the liberal gifts of nature, yet they require that temperature which is recorded in the character of this accomplished prince, and what no youth should lose sight of in his conduct through life ; without which, all our other talents will be of little worth ; and which HENRY “ *knew how to temper.* ”

Henry had, with all his other accomplishments, “ an affability of address.” This quality is an acquirement of study, by observing the easy manners of others, and overcoming that stubbornness which is found to prevail in
uncul-

uncultivated and savage nature: and therefore those who would wish to palliate their want of this qualification, by accusing the natural reservedness of their disposition, confess only, in other words, their *want* of that discipline which manifests the well-bred person.

We should, therefore, earnestly recommend it, as worthy the attention of every youth, early to acquire an affability of address, since it is the cheapest sacrifice we can offer; even a tribute which costs *nothing*; but for which, in return, we receive no less than the goodwill of MEN.

NOTES HISTORICAL.

* * Henry I. made the length of his own arm to be the true standard of an English ell.

He commanded halfpence and farthings to be made round (they were square before): in the
coining

S T E P H E N.

CHARACTER OF STEPHEN.

ENGLAND suffered great miseries during the reign of this prince : but his personal character, allowing for the temerity and injustice of his usurpation, appears not liable to any great exception ; and he seems to have been well qualified, had he succeeded by a just title, to have promoted the happiness and prosperity of his subjects. He was possessed of industry, activity, and courage, to a great degree ; was not deficient in ability, had the talent of gaining mens affections ; and, notwithstanding his precarious situation, never indulged himself in the exercise of any cruelty or revenge. His advancement to the throne procured him neither tranquillity nor happiness. Died 1154.

HUME.

ANOTHER

ANOTHER CHARACTER OF STEPHEN.

STEPHEN was a prince of great courage, fortitude, and activity, and might have reigned with the approbation of his people, had he not been harrassed by the efforts of a powerful competitor, which obliged him to take such measures for his safety as were inconsistent with the dictates of honour, which indeed his ambition prompted him to forego, in his first endeavours to ascend the throne. His necessities afterwards compelled him to infringe the charter of privileges he granted at his accession ; and he was instigated by his jealousy and resentment to commit the most flagrant outrages against gratitude and sound policy. His vices, as a king, seem to have been the effect of troubles in which he was involved ; for, as a man,

D he

he was brave, open, and liberal; and, during the short calm that succeeded the tempest of his reign, he made a progress through his kingdom, published an edict to restrain all rapine and violence, and disbanded the foreign mercenaries who had preyed so long on his people.

SMOLLETT.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE CHARACTER OF STEPHEN.

THE use we would draw from the character of this prince is, that we should not only moderate the ardour of ambitious expectations, but check entirely the career of unlawful pursuits, which seldom produce, when the end is obtained, that felicity which a distant prospect had promised us. “ Stephen’s
“ advancement to the throne procured
“ him

"him neither tranquillity nor happiness,"

And such is the confession of almost every individual, owing to an improper estimate of their enjoyments during the time present.

"Man never is, but always to be blest."

To illustrate this true line of the poet, it may best suit our purpose to produce an example: and here, too, we need not search upon barren ground; for the world, alas! abounds with too many characters unhappy in the midst of blessings!

Suppose we take for our example a young gentleman at school; happy as most youths are, under the roof of discipline, respected by his governors and teachers for his submissive demeanor and progressive improvement; admired by his friends for his superior talents; be-

loved by his associates for his hilarity and benevolence ;—yet the trammels of school-exercise become irksome, and he pants for a change of situation. The time arrives, and he enters the school of business ; intent upon storing his mind with the knowledge of his profession, and laying schemes for his future advancement ; for IMAGINATION perceives paths untrodden before, and HOPE flatters him with success in the pursuit. But these brilliant projects as yet exist *only* in imagination : he is still under the controul of a superior ; his fetters become daily more galling ; and liberty of self-government advances with but lingering steps.

This happy period arrives, however, at last, and he enters upon the stage of life with a mind well stored with useful knowledge, and a disposition adapted to business ; which, by strict application

cation and good conduct, crown his labours with success.

Yet through anxiety for the attainment of one desirable scheme, by the unexpected failure of another, and by a variety of incidents, intermixed with pleasure and pain, hope and fear, occasional losses and frequent gains;—his mind is harrassed; he has not, with all his acquirements, obtained either “tranquillity or happiness.”

In the eager pursuit after gain, he neglected to search for an associate who might partake with him in his pleasures, and lessen the weight of his cares; ONE who could drop along with him the sympathetic tear, dispel the wrinkles from his brow by a tender look, or cheer the heart by her captivating smiles.

Among the many blessings he has been favoured with by Providence, he

has yet to ask for such an one. His prayers are heard, and he calls her his own; and is further blessed with sons and daughters, the bond and cement of connubial affection. What! not happy yet?—No, his children have raised *fresh* wishes, and created *new* desires. He considers them *collectively* and *separately*; and he finds endearments in each, and perceives a difficulty in preferring one to another, either in honour or in riches. Could he but bequeath, therefore, to *each* the same portion of good things he now possesses himself, his happiness would be complete indeed. What though Providence had successfully crowned *his* labours, this had not been the purchase of ease, but the fruits of toil, of carefulness, of anxiety.—Continue thy favours a little longer, thou Gracious Bestower of *good*, prays he; and then, with gratitude of heart, and content-

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ment

ment of mind, will I enjoy the labour of my hands in "tranquillity and happiness;"---eat, drink, and be merry.

But, alas! the infirmities of age have insensibly crept upon him; no longer is the voice of melody pleasing to his ear, nor the taste of wine agreeable to his palate. The loss of one child has palled every enjoyment; but the loss of his bosom companion *brings his grey hairs with sorrow to the grave.*

If the above be a true picture of life in an advantageous situation, and possessing the good things of the world without any reproach of conduct, or sting of conscience; what must be the feelings of the man, whose steps, to obtain this *poor* reward, "have been measures inconsistent with the dictates of honour *!"

* Hume's character of Stephen.

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Thus,

Thus, my young friends, should you contemplate the living examples which pass before your notice; or, in the study of history, reflect upon the striking features of character, and by application learn to temper unwarranted expectations, and put a proper estimate on present blessings, because “the shadow
“of this world passeth away,” and all its enjoyments are vain and uncertain.

NOTES HISTORICAL.

* * * Ancient English valour displayed, in the behaviour of Stephen, at the battle of Lincoln, 1141.

Stephen, being left exposed to the right and left, was surrounded by the enemy; and though he acted the part of an able general, and for a long time sustained the battle against extraordinary odds and efforts, he was at length obliged to yield to the adverse fortune of the day. He
fought:

fought with inconceivable fury, until his battle-axe was broken to pieces; then, drawing his sword, he defended himself against a whole multitude, foaming with rage to see himself abandoned by his soldiers. In this unequal fight he shivered his sword to pieces, and still fought with his truncheon, until he received a blow with a stone, which felled him to the ground: yet he started up again upon his knees; but, before he could rise, a knight called William de Kaines, springing forward, and seizing his crest, presented the point of his sword, and threatened to put him instantly to death if he would not surrender. Notwithstanding the extremity to which he was reduced, he refused to yield to any person but the duke of Gloucester, who, being near the spot, came up and took him prisoner, together with four noblemen who had fought by his side.

A. D. 1148. Several authors agree, that about this time there were very considerable quantities of sugar produced in the isle of Sicily.—The antient Greeks and Romans used honey for sweetening; sugar was not known among them.

H E N R Y II.

CHARACTER OF HENRY II.

THUS died, in the 58th year of his age, and thirty-fifth of his reign, the greatest prince of his time for wisdom, virtue, and ability, and the most powerful in extent of dominion, of all those that had ever filled the throne of England. His character, both in publick and private life, is almost without a blemish; and he seems to have possessed every accomplishment, both of body and mind, which makes a man estimable or amiable. He was of a middle stature, strong, and well proportioned; his countenance was lively and engaging; his conversation affable and entertaining; his elocution easy, persuasive, and ever at command. He loved peace, but possessed both conduct and
bravery

bravery in war; was provident without timidity; severe in the execution of justice without rigour; and temperate without austerity. He preserved health, and kept himself from corpulency, to which he was somewhat inclined, by an abstemious diet, and by frequent exercise, particularly by hunting. When he could enjoy leisure, he recreated himself in learned conversation or in reading; and he cultivated his natural talents by study, above any prince of his time. His affections, as well as his enmities, were warm and durable; and his long experience of ingratitude and infidelity of men never destroyed the natural sensibility of his temper, which disposed him to friendship and society. His character has been transmitted to us by many writers who were his contemporaries; and it resembles extremely, in its most remarkable strokes, that of his

maternal grandfather, Henry I. excepting only that ambition, which was a ruling passion in both, found not in the first Henry such unexceptionable means of exerting itself, and pushed that prince into measures which were both criminal in themselves, and were the cause of further crimes, from which his grandson's conduct was happily exempted. Died 1189. HUME.

ANOTHER CHARACTER OF HENRY II.

THUS died Henry in the fifty-seventh year of his age (Hume says 58), and thirty-fifth of his reign, in the course of which he had, on sundry occasions, displayed all the abilities of a politician, all the sagacity of a legislator, and all the magnanimity of a hero. He lived revered above all the princes of his time; and his death was deeply lamented by his

his subjects, whose happiness seems to have been the chief aim of all his endeavours. He not only enacted wholesome laws, but saw them executed with great punctuality. He was generous, even to admiration, with regard to those who committed offences against his own person; but he never forgave the injuries that were offered to his people, for atrocious crimes were punished severely without respect of persons. He was of a middle stature, and the most exact proportion; his countenance was round, fair and ruddy; his blue eyes were mild and engaging, except in a transport of passion, when they sparkled like lightning, to the terror of the beholders. He was broad-chested, strong, muscular, and inclined to be corpulent, though he prevented the bad effects of this disposition by hard exercise and continual fatigue: he was temperate in his meals, even to a degree of abstinence, and

and seldom or ever sat down, except at supper : he was eloquent, agreeable, and facetious ; remarkably courteous and polite ; compassionate to all in distress ; so charitable, that he constantly allotted one tenth of his household provisions to the poor, and in time of dearth he maintained ten thousand indigent persons, from the beginning of spring till the end of autumn. His talents, naturally good, he had cultivated with great assiduity, and delighted in the conversation of learned men, to whom he was a generous benefactor. His memory was so surprizingly tenacious, that he never forgot a face nor a circumstance that was worth remembering. Though superior to his contemporaries in strength, riches, true courage, and military skill ; he never engaged in war without reluctance, and was so averse to bloodshed, that he expressed
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an uncommon grief at the loss of every private soldier : yet was he not exempt from human frailties ; his passions, naturally violent, often hurried him to excess ; he was prone to anger, transported with the lust of power, and particularly accused of incontinence, not only in the affair of Rosamond, whom he is said to have concealed in a labyrinth at Woodstock, from the jealous enquiry of his wife, but also in a supposed commerce with the French princess Adalais, who was bred in England as the future wife of his son Richard. This infamous breach of honour and hospitality, if he was actually guilty, is the foulest stain upon his character ; though the fact is doubtful, and we hope the charge untrue.

SMOLLETT.

ANOTHER

ANOTHER CHARACTER OF HENRY II.

HENRY II. was certainly the greatest and most accomplished prince that had filled the English throne since the Norman Conquest, and inferior to very few of our princes in any future period. In his person, which is very minutely described by several contemporary writers, he was of middle stature, remarkably strong and active, but inclining to corpulency, which he guarded against by abstemiousness and continual exercise. His countenance was comely, and his eyes had a mild lustre, except when angry, and then they were uncommonly fierce and sparkling. In the very last years of life, he mounted a horse with greater agility, and rode with greater spirit, than any of his courtiers, either
in

in hunting or in a journey. In his deportment he was exceedingly polite and agreeable, except to persons of a haughty spirit and carriage, whom he delighted to humble. His conversation was pleasant and facetious; his elocution easy, eloquent, and graceful. His heart was warm, and his passions strong, which rendered him an ardent lover, but not a faithful husband; a zealous friend, but a formidable enemy; a kind master, and but too indulgent a parent. His understanding, which was naturally good, was improved by an excellent education; under his uncle, earl of Gloucester; by assiduous reading of the best books, particularly history; and by frequent conversation of the wisest men: by which means he became the most learned prince, and the greatest politician, in the age in which he flourished. His memory was
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so tenacious, that he remembered almost all he read or heard, and never forgot a face he had once seen. He avoided war from principles of humanity and prudence; but, when it became necessary, he carried it on with so much courage, conduct, and activity, that he constantly baffled all the schemes of all his enemies. In the arts of peace he greatly delighted and excelled; a munificent patron of learning and learned men, a great encourager of the arts, expending immense sums in fortifying towns and castles, repairing old, and building new places, and adorning them with gardens, parks, and fish-ponds; in a word, one of his greatest enemies acknowledges, "That he was endowed
 " with so many excellent qualities, both
 " natural and acquired, that there was
 " no prince in the world comparable to
 " to him."

HENRY.

OBSER-

OBSERVATIONS ON THE CHARACTER OF
HENRY II.

IN the character of this prince, there is a catalogue of pleasing qualities and shining virtues enumerated, which dignify human nature; but they agree so nearly with those of his grandfather, that there seems scarcely any other distinction than what arises from variety of language more copiously expressed. *Hume* acknowledges, "This character resembles extremely, in its most remarkable strokes, that of his maternal grandfather, Henry I."

As we observed upon a former occasion, in these remote periods, materials sufficient have not been transmitted, from which modern historians might describe peculiarities of feature through the veil of darkness which obscured the
nicer

nicer touches; for although, in portraits, as well as characters, of the same line, there may be a *family likeness*, yet there is still a distinguishable peculiarity of feature sufficient to discriminate both person and character. This, by the way; for, from the contemplation of a character so engaging and accomplished as that of Henry II. much instruction may be obtained.

“ Henry preserved health, and kept
 “ himself from corpulency (to which he
 “ was somewhat inclined) by abstemi-
 “ ous diet, and frequent exercise.”

HEALTH is so invaluable a blessing, that its price is more precious than rubies, since without it neither honours, nor wealth, will afford the possessor any enjoyment; but to preserve which certain tributes are to be paid, and sacrifices offered: and to which purpose, we cannot probably take a better example,
 than.

than imitating the conduct of Henry, of restraining the appetite by an "abstemious diet;" and, perhaps, the most rational, pleasing, and least expensive amusement may be, "frequent exercise" on horseback, or a walk on foot, as circumstances suit, and wherein we can contemplate upon the beautiful scenery of nature, enjoy the balmy gales of the morn, or the refreshing coolness of the eve, and by the wise temperance of both these practices escape the nauseous draught of the apothecary, and enjoy sound health, which contributes not a little to vigour of mind.

"When Henry could enjoy leisure, he recreated himself in learned conversation, or in reading."

To a liberal and well improved mind, there is, probably, no entertainment so engaging, as that in which Henry employed his leisure hours. The conversation

sation of learned men, when unrestrained, and without affectation, is not only the most rational, but the highest feast of which the mind is capable ; for, by the warmth of conversation, TRUTH acquires additional strength, and knowledge thereby is enforced and diffused, but, when enlivened by wit, and the superior powers of eloquence, it makes an impression which is not soon effaced.

But when this pleasureable intercourse cannot be enjoyed, how happy a substitute have we to supply its place. That faculty of communicating our ideas to distant places and future ages (which seems to be rather an immediate gift of the divinity, than the invention of man), affords us an inexhaustible fund of entertainment *.

How

* The noble art to Cadmus owes its rise,
Of painting words, and speaking to the eyes.
He

How delightful is the reflection ! and, were it not that habit had occasioned us to overlook it, how surprizing the effect ! That the exalted ideas and grand conceptions of those men, who, from the earliest ages, have been looked upon as the ornaments of human nature, are presented to our minds undiminished by length of time, and endued with all the energy with which they were first conceived and expressed ; inasmuch, that we may be allowed, without exceeding the bounds of truth, to say, that the spirits of those immortal characters attend us at all times, ready to be the companions of our leisure hours, to open to us their stores of wisdom, which

He first in wondrous fetters bound
The airy voice, and stopp'd the flying sound :
The various figures by his pencil wrought
Gave colour, form, and body to the thought.
Sullivan's Philosophical Rhapsodies.
have

have been the admiration of succeeding ages.

This pleasurable intercourse of the society of learned men has its *price*, which is no trifling purchase; for these valuable acquirements can only be obtained upon certain conditions. In other words, conversation is a traffic, and to carry on the figure, except we have stock to bring to market, we can make no exchange; that those who wish to attract the notice of the learned must have something valuable to transfer. But the ingenuous youth may naturally ask, “If these are the *terms* of admission into the company of our superiors, *we* must for ever be excluded, since, notwithstanding our warm desire after, and endeavour to obtain knowledge, we still feel ourselves deficient in that sound wisdom, experience,

“ rience, and discernment, which maturity has procured *them*?”

The observation may be in some degree true; nevertheless, an aspiring youth, if possessed of easy address and modest deportment, and desirous to draw his knowledge of men and things from the fountain of nature, in the society of men liberal of sentiment, and ready to communicate, will still find some fostering hand held forth, to encourage, cherish, and support his steps on his first entrance upon the theatre of the world: provided he has pursued the introductory means, which cannot be better explained than following the practice, and imitating the conduct of the accomplished Henry II. namely, “ by assiduously “ reading the best books”—“ by cultivating his natural talents.”

NOTES HISTORICAL.

* * A. D. 1162. A frolick of king Henry II. with his chancellor Becket (afterwards the archbishop), which shews the manners of this age.

HENRY, besides committing all his more important business to Becket's management, honoured him with his friendship and intimacy; and, when ever he was disposed to relax a little, by sports of any kind, he admitted his chancellor to the party.

One day, as the king and chancellor were riding in the streets of London together, they observed a beggar who was shivering with cold. "Would it not be praise-worthy," said the king, "to give the, poor man a warm coat in this severe season?" "It would, surely," replies the chancellor; "and you do well, sir, in thinking of such good actions." "Then he shall have one presently," replied the king; and seizing the skirt of the chancellor's coat, began to pull it violently. The chancellor defended himself for some time, and they had both of them like to have tumbled off their horses in the street; when
Becket,

Becket, after a vehement struggle, let go his coat, which the king bestowed on the beggar, who, being ignorant of the quality of the persons, was not a little surprized *with the present*.

AMERICA.

A. D. 1110. The Welsh historians hand down the following romantic account of a discovery made this year, of a country far west of Europe, by one *Madoc*, a younger son of Owen Guyneth, prince of North Wales. This Madoc, seeing his brethren and nephews at war for the succession of their father, and his country involved in misery, chose to seek adventures in some foreign land: for this end he embarked in a ship from the North coast of Ireland, and sailing far westward; he came to a land where he discovered many strange things. He, however, returned to Wales again, where he provided no less than ten sail of ships, on which he engaged a good number of both sexes, with whom he again sailed for that strange country, from whence neither he nor any of his company ever returned, nor were ever heard of more. Others say, that he left the people there, and returned to Wales, from whence he returned a *third* time, but was never heard of more.

E 2

Some

Some relations of the Spaniards, who discovered AMERICA 330 years after, seem, though faintly, to confirm this story; who affirm, that at their first arrival the native *Indians* paid honour to the cross. There are *Welsh* writers who have found out an affinity between several words in the native *Indian* language of the *Americans*, and those of the *Welsh* tongue.

GLASS.

About this time *glass windows* are said to have begun to be used in England: they had been discovered long before, and, though very scarce, in private houses, and ranked till now even as a kind of luxury, and as marks of great magnificence. Italy had them first, next France, from whence they came into England.

ST. PAUL'S.

A. D. 1187. The antient cathedral church of St. Paul's in London being burnt down, a new one, much larger, was begun, built on arches or vaults of stone, which was then reckoned a more wonderful work than before known in this nation, and now brought in by the *French*; the stones being fetched from Caen in Normandy.

ANDERSON.

Specimen

Specimen of the English language in the time of Henry II. from the Lord's Prayer, rendered thus by Pope Adrian, an Englishman, in metre, to be more easily remembered by the people :

Ore fader, in heaven rich,
Thy name be hallyed ever lich.
Thou bring us thy michell blisse ;
Als hit in heaven y. doe,
That in yearth beene it also,
That holy bread that lasteth ay,
Thou send it ous this ilke day,
Forgive us all that we have don,
As we forgivet uch other mon :
Ne let us fall into no foundling,
Ac shild ous fro the fowle thing.

CHARACTER OF RICHARD I.

THE most shining part of this prince's character, was his military talents; no man ever in that romantic age carried courage and intrepidity to a greater height; and this quality gained him the appellation of the *lion-bearded*, *cœur de lion*. He passionately loved glory; and as his conduct in the field was not inferior to his valour, he seems to have possessed every talent necessary for acquiring it; his resentments also were high, his pride unconquerable, and his subjects, as well as his neighbours, had therefore reason to apprehend, from the continuance of his reign, a perpetual scene of blood and violence. Of

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an impetuous and vehement spirit, he was distinguished by all the good as well as the bad qualities which are incident to that character. He was open, frank, generous, sincere, and brave; he was revengeful, domineering, ambitious, haughty, and cruel, and was thus better calculated to dazzle men by the splendour of his enterprizes, than either to promote their happiness or his own grandeur by a sound and well-regulated policy. As military talents make great impression on the people, he seems to have been much beloved by his English subjects; and he is remarked to have been the first prince of the Norman line who bore a sincere affection and regard for them. He passed however, only four months of his reign in that kingdom: the crusade employed him near three years: he was detained about four months in captivity; the rest of his reign was

spent either in war, or preparations for war against France: and he was so pleased with the fame which he had acquired in the East, that he seemed determined, notwithstanding all his past misfortunes, to have further exhausted his kingdom, and to have exposed himself to new hazards by conducting another expedition against the infidels. Died April 6, 1199, aged 42. Reigned ten years.

HUME.

ANOTHER CHARACTER OF RICHARD I.

THIS renowned prince was tall, strong, straight, and well-proportioned. His arms were remarkably long, his eyes blue, and full of vivacity; his hair was of a yellowish colour; his countenance fair and comely, and his air majestic.

He

He was endowed with good natural understanding ; his penetration was uncommon ; he possessed a fund of manly eloquence ; his conversation was spirited, and he was admired for his talents of repartee ; as for his courage and ability in war, both Europe and Asia resound with his praise. The Saracens stilled their children with the terror of his name ; and Saladine, who was an accomplished prince, admired his valour to such a degree of enthusiasm, that immediately after Richard had defeated him on the plains of Joppa, he sent him a couple of fine Arabian horses, in token of his esteem ; a polite compliment, which Richard returned with magnificent presents. These are the shining parts of his character, which, however, cannot dazzle the judicious observer so much, but that he may perceive a number of blemishes, which no historian has

been able to efface from the memory of this celebrated monarch. His ingratitude and want of filial affection are unpardonable. He was proud, haughty, ambitious, choleric, cruel, vindictive, and debauched ; nothing could equal his rapaciousness but his profusion, and, indeed, the one was the effect of the other ; he was a tyrant to his wife, as well as to his people, who groaned under his taxations to such a degree, that even the glory of his victories did not exempt him from their execrations ; in a word, he has been aptly compared to a lion, a species of animals which he resembled not only in courage, but likewise in ferocity.

SMOLLETT.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE CHARACTER OF RICHARD I.

As this prince is chiefly celebrated for his military valour, and his knowledge of the art of war, any observations for the use of my *fair friends* can hardly be expected to be deduced from a character “who has been aptly compared to a lion, a species of animal which he resembled, not only in courage, but likewise in ferocity.”

We will, therefore, offer some remarks, which may be useful in reading history, exemplified from historical extracts.

Amongst the useful and interesting knowledge acquired from the study of history, perhaps there is no subject more entertaining than observations on the manners and customs of mankind in different periods, and the progress

of the human mind in the acquirement of knowledge and refinement of manners, the tempering of severe laws, and the better security of our liberties ; which the progress of learning, and influence of the Christian religion, have happily meliorated and effected.

The character of Richard exhibits a striking example of the difference of manners at different periods. " Richard was
 " revengeful, ambitious, domineering,
 " haughty, cruel; and, moreover, open,
 " frank, generous, sincere, and brave."

The two qualities, *bravery* and *cruelty*, by no means correspond with the behaviour of the military heroes of modern times; but the cruel practices of these barbarous ages are too shocking, nor should the recital have disgraced our pages only by way of exhibiting the contrast.

We are told, that Saladin having refused to ratify a certain capitulation, the
 king

king of England ordered all his prisoners, to the number of five thousand, to be butchered ; and the war between England and France was carried on with so much animosity, as to cause the eyes of the prisoners taken in battle to be put out by both parties.

Vidomar, viscount of Limoges, refusing to deliver a treasure discovered by a peasant in digging, which was claimed by the sovereign as lord paramount, he assembled a body of troops, and invested the castle of Chalus, where he understood this curious treasure was lodged, which he intended to take by force, and hang every prisoner. On the fourth day of the siege, as he rode about the place with Marcaddee, to observe where the assault might be given with the fairest prospect of success, he was shot in the shoulder by an arrow from a cross-bow ; and the unskilful
surgeon,

surgeon, endeavouring to disengage it from the flesh, mangled the part in such a manner, that a gangrene ensued!

The king, sensible that his end was approaching, sent for Bertram de Gourdon, who he knew had purposely shot the arrow, and asked him, "Wretch, what have I ever done you, that you should have thus sought my life?"—"What have you done me?" replied coolly the prisoner: "you killed with your own hands my father, and my two brothers; and you intended to have hanged me; I am now in your power, and you may take revenge by inflicting on me your severest torments; but I shall endure them all with pleasure, since that, with mine own hands, I have rid the world of such a nuisance." Struck with the reply, and the horrors of approaching death, Richard ordered Gourdon to be set at liberty and rewarded;

warded ; but Marcaddee, ruffian-like, instead, seized the unhappy man, flead him alive, and then hanged him.

History informs us, that poachers in forests were even under this savage treatment, their bodies being mutilated, and eyes bored out.

Whilst modern times exhibit acts of moderation and humanity to the vanquished. Witness the effort of a CURTIS, who daringly stepped forth at the late siege of Gibraltar, through imminent danger, gallantly and humanely to save the lives even of enemies, who must have perished if not aided at that critical juncture.

Thus sings the poet :

- “ Even war, terrific war, has learn’d to wear
- “ A milder garb, and features less severe.
- “ The fury of the doubtful conflict o’er,
- “ Though go’g’d with death, and red with
“ streaming gore ;
- “ The valiant captive meets attentive care,
- “ And vanquish’d foes fraternal kindness share.
- “ Humanity,

“ Humanity, still meek, and prompt to save,

“ Heals every wound the bleeding conquest

“ gave ;

“ Bids the worst horrors of the battle cease,

“ And lends Bellona half the charms of peace.”

Pye's Progress of Refinement.

It may not be amiss to remark, that Smollett, along with historical characters, seldom fails to describe the personal features. Why he should pay so much attention to this particular, we can only guess ; probably owing to his profession, being bred a surgeon, which might early initiate him to observe the form of the limbs, muscular texture, and predominant lines of the countenance ; add to this his talent for novel-writing, which he cultivated with good success, and which urged him to observe the features as well as faculties of mankind. A genius such as his, speculative and industrious (for he continued the use of his pen to an advanced period of life), was continually
upon

upon the watch, we may suppose, for objects to suit his purpose. We may further observe a strong propensity to this subject, from his giving along with his history engraved likenesses of his different heroes. What we would infer from the above, which may seem too trivial, is, that in our reading we should consider and duly weigh the peculiar qualities, established opinions, and particular aims of the historian, as well as the subject of his history, and by the exertion of our own judgement, by his manner of stating the fact, to infer causes and events, not according to *his*, but our *own* conceptions.

NOTES HISTORICAL.

BUILDINGS.

In these early times, *stone* and *brick* buildings were very rare, even in the city of London, although necessary, since as yet there was no nightly watch. To guard, therefore, against thieves as well as against *fire*, which last calamity was

were not even exceeded by the baseness which appeared in his transactions with the king of France, the pope, and the barons. His dominions, when they devolved to him by the death of his brother, were more extensive than have ever since his time been ruled by any English monarch. But he first lost, by his misconduct, the flourishing provinces in France; the antient patrimony of his family. He subjected his kingdom to a shameful vassalage under the see of Rome; he saw the prerogatives of his crown diminished by law, and still more reduced by faction; and he died at last when in danger of being totally expelled by a foreign power, and of either ending his life miserably in a prison, or seeking shelter as a fugitive from the pursuit of his enemies.

The prejudices against this prince were so violent, that he was believed to have

have sent an embassy to the emperor of Morocco, and to have offered to change his religion and become Mahometan, in order to purchase the protection of that monarch; but, though that story is told us on plausible authority, it is in itself utterly improbable, except that there is nothing so incredible as may not become likely from the folly and wickedness of John. Died 1216.

HUME.

ANOTHER CHARACTER OF JOHN.

JOHN was in his person taller than the middle size, of a good shape and agreeable countenance; with respect to his disposition, it is strongly delineated in the transactions of his reign. If his understanding was contemptible, his heart was the object of detestation;

we find him slothful, shallow, proud, imperious, cowardly, libidinous, and inconstant, abject in adversity, and overbearing in success; contemned and hated by his subjects, over whom he tyrannized to the utmost of his power; abhorred by the clergy, whom he oppressed with exactions; and despised by all the neighbouring princes of Europe: though he might have passed through life without incurring such a load of odium and contempt, had not his reign been perplexed by the turbulence of his barons, the rapaciousness of the pope, and the ambition of such a monarch as Philip Augustus; his character could never have afforded one quality that would have exempted him from the disgust and scorn of his people: nevertheless, it must be owned, that his reign is not altogether barren of laudable transactions. He regulated the form of
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the government in the city of London, and several other places in the kingdom. He was the first who coined sterling money.

SMOLLETT.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE CHARACTER OF
JOHN.

It is very certain that no man is fit for every thing; but it is as *certain* too, that there is scarce any one man who is not fit for something; which something nature plainly points out to him, by giving him a tendency and propensity to it. Common sense to the mind seems to be what conscience is to the heart, the faithful and constant minister of what is right and wrong. Every one finds in himself, either from nature or education (for they are hard to dis-

distinguish, a peculiar bent and disposition towards some particular character; nor is it easy, without peculiar exertions and continual struggles, to overcome the bias. Hence it follows, that if this talent, disposition, or propensity, be cultivated, success will most likely ensue, and perhaps eminence be obtained; whereas, if neglected, the progress will be inconsiderable, and the reward only ridicule.

A man may easily sink many virtues by the weight of one folly, but will not be able to protect many follies by the force of one virtue. We cannot too much admire the wisdom of that state which watched over the particular propensities of the rising generation, and their steady adherence to the voice of nature in the choice of that profession for their youth which best suited their abilities and dispositions: nay, even due
care

care was taken in the education of their princes, that they might be fit for something, for they were always instructed in some other art besides that of government, so that, if their genius did not lead them to be able princes, they might at least be useful to society.

The constitution of this kingdom does not adopt this custom, else we may suppose John had never ascended the throne; since "his character had no
"one quality that would have exempted
"him from the disgust and scorn of
"his people."

Nevertheless, if in common life parents would adhere to the voice of nature, in choosing a profession fitted to the abilities of their sons, rather than yield to a favourite propensity of forcing them into an employment, wherein no talents sufficient to discharge the duties thereof are given, we may reasonably
F believe

believe much good would accrue to the state in general, and to individuals in particular.

But what we would further infer upon this subject is, that those parents who have it in their power, by being possessed of property, of giving their children an education suitable to the station in life they should fill, and yet wilfully neglect this essential point; we may assert, do not properly discharge their duty as good members to society, or as good parents to their offspring; and that they want the enforcing law of the forementioned state to compel them to it; nay, we may venture say, such parents may, in some measure, be chargeable with the guilt of a child's bad conduct in life hereafter, in consequence of want of timely and proper instruction in infancy. How many examples may every one's memory recollect,

lect, of parents who have toiled all their days to lay field to field, and add house to house, in addition to his child's portion; but with all these additions still neglect the one thing *needful*;—of laying out a very small part of this property, in procuring for him a suitable education; that *knowledge*, whereby he might possess it with honour to himself, so as to become an ornament to his country, and a blessing to society.

It may be, that penuriousness might have restrained the avaricious and ill-judging parent from laying out this small sum towards the welfare of his child; or it might be weakness, a foolish fondness, through a mistaken opinion that the child could not undergo school discipline. But, accustomed to indulgence from infancy, he imagines he has a right still to indulge his growing passions, which so much weaken his frame,

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that

that a debilitated old man appears, before the vigour of manhood has yet matured his body or mind. Not being a fit companion for the more rational part, who have cultivated their talents in due season, he cannot gain admittance into their circle ; nor, if he could, would he be able to enjoy it. Comfortless in thus being debarred social converse—with a mind barren, uncultivated, not affording any one resource of pleasure, either from books or the arts, or the contemplation of any useful work done or intended, or the heartfelt joy of one single benevolent act performed, he seeks for what is yet within his reach, the company of the lowest order, the very refuse, the disgrace of humanity ; a party of sycophants, who will flatter for the sake of a dinner, and with a fiend-like pleasure will lead him on from sin to sin till he is plunged into a sea of licen-

licentiousness, whereby his riches take themselves wings and fly away with more rapidity than they were at first accumulated. If the young spendthrift, through a natural good constitution, should survive the loss of wealth; he lives a wretched monument of distress and contempt, neither talents for employment, nor friend to patronize him. The short inference which may be drawn from the whole, cannot be better expressed than in the words of the sacred penman: "Train up a child in the way he *should* go, and when he is old he will not depart from it."

"He that loveth his son, causeth him oft to feel the rod, that he may have joy of him in the end. He that chastiseth his son, shall have joy in him, and shall rejoice of him among his acquaintance. He that teacheth his son, grieveth his enemy; and before

F 3

"his

“ his friends he shall rejoice of him.
 “ Though his father die, yet he is as
 “ though he was not dead, for he hath
 “ left behind him one that is like him-
 “ self. While he lived, he saw and
 “ rejoiced in him; and when he died,
 “ he was not sorrowful. He that
 “ maketh too much of his son, shall
 “ bind up his wounds, and his bowels
 “ will be troubled at every cry. An
 “ horse not broken becometh head-
 “ strong, and a child left to himself
 “ will be wilful. Cocker thy child,
 “ and he shall make thee afraid : play
 “ with him, and he will bring thee to
 “ heaviness : laugh not with him, lest
 “ thou have sorrow with him, and lest
 “ thou gnash teeth in the end. Give
 “ him no liberty in his youth, and wink
 “ not at his follies.”

Advice of the wise son of Serach:

NOTES HISTORICAL.

A. D. 1199. King John gave corporations the privilege of annually electing the chief officer, or ruler of their town, out of their own body: whereas before this time the crown always appointed a chief officer, who ruled them (sometimes arbitrarily enough), and raised the several taxes: from which privilege arose the present annual magistracy of corporations.

Brady, the historian, informs us, before this time people could not marry their own children to whom and where they pleased, without the king's licence, nor could widows marry on any other terms; nor could a townsman alienate his lands by either gift or sale, although of their own purchase, without licence first obtained.

INTEREST OF MONEY.

At this period the enormous sum of ten per cent. was given for the interest of money; and which rate held till the reign of Henry VIII. that is, Henry enacted a law that no larger sum should be given, as a check to the Jews, who

were but too apt to take advantage of the necessities, and extort more usury.

MAGNET.

A. D. 1200. Several authors imagine, that in or about this year the magnet or load-stone was discovered, and, from its peculiar property of giving to iron a disposition to point towards the North, was soon applied to that useful instrument to mariners, the *compass*. Cassendi supposes it might be a French invention, among other reasons, because the North point is by all nations marked on their compasses by a *fleur de lis*, the arms of France.

SURNAMES.

Surnames began to be used about this time in Europe: first, indeed, among the nobility only, and afterwards, by degrees, amongst the lower sort; chiefly taken from *their* particular occupations, as *archer*, *bowman*, *fletcher*, *stringer*, &c. &c.

A. D. 1103, John granted a charter to the town of Liverpool this year. The first charter was granted by Henry I. in the year 1129.

MAGNA CHARTA.

A. D. 1215. We have a strong and lasting example, in a memorable event of this year, that the reigns of weak princes have been always favourable to the liberties of the subject. Oppression drives them to desperation, in consequence of which is sometimes obtained freedom. Hence arose the great bulwark of our liberties and properties in this kingdom, by John's grant of that great act, called, by way of distinction, MAGNA CHARTA. The manner of obtaining it has something peculiar.

A conference between the king and barons was appointed at Runnymede, between Windsor and Staines, a place which has been ever since extremely celebrated on account of this great event. The two parties encamped apart, like open enemies, and, after a debate of a few days, the king, with a facility somewhat suspicious, signed and sealed the charter which was required of him. This famous deed either granted or secured very important privileges to every body of men in the kingdom. In the confusion of those tumults between John and his barons, Camden relates, that there is a tradition, that they stamped *kaiser money*; yet, adds he, I never saw any

of them; but we have seen money made by the
Hollanders of pasteboard, anno 1574-

STERLING MONEY.

King John is allowed to be the first who coined *sterling money*, which took its name, not from *Sterling*, a town so called in Scotland (where they supposed it was first coined), but from the *Easterlings*, a coin so named, called-in by this king for reducing his silver coin to its purity. In antient writings it is even termed *Easterling money*. John was also the first king of England that planted English laws and officers in Ireland, and who took upon himself the title of Lord of Ireland. He also first regularly established the rates of wines, bread, cloth, &c. and was the first who appointed those excellent forms of civil government in London, and most other cities and towns, which they enjoy at present.

PRICE OF PROVISIONS.

The rates of provisions at this time were generally as follows: Wheat 6s. (or 18s. of our money) per quarter, at the highest; the lowest 1s. 6d; the medium about 3s. Proportion or difference of living then and in our days, about five to one.

REMARK.

REMARK.

It should seem from the above acts of John, that historians have been too severe in their character of this king ; or that they have let prejudice overbalance their better judgement ; or that they have failed with the tide, and taken up their opinions (as is too often the case) according to commonly received notions, without examining well into facts. John may have been a weak prince ; but, as it should seem, not destitute of talents which tended towards the publick good. And it is to be wished some future historian would investigate the character of John, so as to make it correspond more consistently with such useful exertions.

CHARACTER OF HENRY III.

THE most obvious circumstance of Henry the Third's character is his incapacity for government, which rendered him as much a prisoner in the hands of his own ministers and favourites, and as little at his own disposal, as when detained a captive in the hands of his enemies. From this source, rather than from insincerity and treachery, arose his negligence in observing his promises; and he was too easily induced, for the sake of present convenience, to sacrifice the lasting advantages arising from the trust and confidence of his people. Hence were derived his profusion to favourites, his attachment to strangers, the variable-

ness

ness of his conduct, his hasty resentments, and his sudden forgiveness and return of affection. Instead of reducing the dangerous power of his nobles, by obliging them to observe the laws towards their inferiors, and setting them the salutary example in his own government, he was seduced to imitate their conduct, and to make his arbitrary will, or rather that of his ministers, the rule of his actions.

Instead of accommodating himself, by a strict frugality, to the embarrassed situation in which his revenue had been left, by the military expedition of his uncle, the dissipations of his father, and the usurpations of the barons; he was tempted to levy money by irregular exactions, which, without enriching himself, impoverished, or at least disgusted, his people. Of all men, nature seemed least to have fitted him for being a tyrant; yet
are

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are there instances of oppression in his reign, which, though derived from the precedents left him by his predecessors, had been carefully guarded against by the great charter; and are inconsistent with all rules of good government: and, on the whole, we may say, that greater abilities, with his good dispositions, would have prevented him from falling into his faults; or, with worse dispositions, would have enabled him to maintain and defend them. Died November 16, 1272, aged 64. Reigned 56 years.

HUME.

ANOTHER CHARACTER OF HENRY III.

HENRY was of a middle size and robust make, and his countenance had a peculiar cast from his left eye-lid, which hung down so far as to cover part of

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his

his eye. The particulars of his character may be gathered from the detail of his conduct. He was certainly a prince of very mean talents ; irresolute, inconstant, and capricious ; proud, insolent, and arbitrary ; arrogant in prosperity, and abject in adversity ; profuse, rapacious, and choleric, though destitute of liberality, œconomy, and courage ; yet his continence was praise-worthy, as well as his aversion to cruelty ; for he contented himself with punishing the rebels in their effects, when he might have glutted his revenge with their blood. He was prodigal even to excess, and therefore always in necessity. Notwithstanding the great sums he levied from his subjects, and though his occasions were never so pressing, he could not help squandering away his money upon worthless favourites, without considering

sidering the difficulty he always found in obtaining supplies from parliament.

SMOLLETT.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE CHARACTER OF HENRY III.

INCAPACITY to fill that station wherein destiny has placed any one, is not only a great evil to himself, but to the community at large : nor can rank or power, or long experience, supply the defect of weak abilities ; else Henry's long experience, through a series of sixty-six years, might have taught him the art of governing. For, to paraphrase the words of Hume in his introduction to this reign,

“ Most sciences, as they improve by practice, invent means by which they facilitate

facilitate their ends; and, by employing general theorems, are enabled to comprehend, in a few propositions, a great number of inferences and conclusions. Government also, being a production of acts, which are multiplying without end, is obliged to adopt such modes, as to observe only the most material occasions, and to drop all the minute circumstances which should only be attended to by ministers fitly chosen, to act in their respective stations."

Henry's incapacity could not enable him to profit by these maxims; "being as much a prisoner in the hands of his own ministers and favourites, and as little at his own disposal, as when detained a captive in the hands of his enemies."

But although such a character as the above given of this weak prince may afford us no subject worthy our imitation;

tion; still it claims our compassion, and should call forth the gratitude of those who are endued with more perfect faculties, to acknowledge such essential blessings with thankfulness to the Giver of every good thing, their great CREATOR: To parents, who have shewn them good examples, and instilled into their early minds the principles of honour, of justice, of mercy, and of virtue: To teachers, who have improved these faculties by such instructions as have enabled them more extensively to fulfil the relative duties, and which have afforded them many pleasurable sensations, in searching into the works of nature, and in the study of the fine arts.

But while these several blessings claim a grateful acknowledgement, they should not fail to remember, that an account will be required how they may have used these talents; that they merit not the reproach

reproach given to the slothful man in the parable, of, “Go thou wicked and “slothful servant.”

To enumerate all the duties incumbent, would be tedious and unnecessary; nevertheless, a few of such offices may be mentioned, which, being easy of performance, may yield much good to those who stand in *need*, and afford no small satisfaction to the bestower; such as giving counsel to those who ask it, and are likely to follow it; in advising an industrious youth on his first appearance in the world—by well-timed exertions in reconciling and healing differences—those little misunderstandings which will sometimes arise between the best of people;—not as a busy medler, but as a *peace-maker*; “by your works “shall you be known;” seasonably assisting the industrious poor, those useful members of society, in time of sickness and

and real necessity. It is not the wealthy only that may be the *good Samaritan*, but any one who can spare a *little*; and, instead of wasting that time, to say the least of it, *uselessly* (which no one but has some portion to spare, be his occupations in life what they may), *dedicate* it to some useful, and (if occasion serves) *public* purpose.

The vulgar proverb, *What is every body's business is nobody's*, is become a *wise maxim*; and many there are who mean well, yet shelter themselves under its sanctuary; and it is very certain, that on these occasions, however circumspect a person may be, it is almost impossible but he must give offence to some, and bear the censure of many.

But such useful and necessary business must yet be done by SOME ONE; and whilst you can possess a self-acquitting conscience, *inspired by the pure motive*
of

of *promoting* a public good, and void of intentional evil, you have a good advocate in your favour ; and with regard to the reproaches of a misinformed, and ill-judging world, you have the blessed words of your great and *final Judge* for your consolation : “ Blessed are you
“ when men shall revile you, persecute
“ you, speak evil of you for my sake,”
&c.

It may be supposed we have on this occasion been preaching to experienced age, instead of youth. But the age of maturity may arrive ; and it is well to lay plans of future conduct at an early season, and minutely digest them, as well as may be, so that when the time of action does come, they have not the lesson to learn, but are ready to execute what has already been well conceived in theory.

NOTES HISTORICAL.

A. D. 1229. The burgesſes of Liverpool obtained, for a fine of ten marks, that their town ſhould be a corporation by charter, and a free borough for ever, with a merchant guild, and other liberties.

COALS.

A. D. 1232. King Henry confirmed the charter granted by John, his father, to Newcastle; wherein he gives the ſaid *honeſt men*, upon their ſupplication, licence to dig coals and ſtones in the common ſoil without the walls, called the Caſtle-moore, and to convert them to their own profit, in aid of their *fee-farm* rent of 100*l.* per annum. This is the firſt mention made of coals met with. The city of London, in thoſe times, had ſo many woods and copſes round it, on all ſides, and the carriage thereof both by land and water being ſo cheap, that there was little need of coals for fuel.

Singular

Singular TENURES of LAND.

In the 19th of Henry III. Water Gately held the manor of Westcourt, in Beddington, in Surrey, yielding yearly to the king one cross-bow.

Anno 3tio Edward. I. Osborn de Lonchamp, knight, held his lands of Ovenhelle in Kent, for personally guarding the king forty days into Wales, at his own expence, with one horse of five shillings value, one sack worth six-pence, and one broch (a pot, jug, or bason) for that sack.

The like service the same year of Lawrence de Broke, who for his hamlet at *Renbam* in *Middlesex*, found the king one soldier, a horse worth five shillings, with a sack five-pence, and a brock worth two-pence, at his own expence, wherever his army shall be within the *four seas*. This was settled, says our author, at the *Stone Cross* in the Strand, London, where the judges itinerant used in old times to sit.

13mo Edw. I. Henry de Avering's tenure of land of the manor of Morton in Essex, was to find a man, and a horse worth ten shillings, a leather sack, and four horse-shoes.

In the year following, three persons held 30 acres of land in Carlton, in Norfolk, by the service of bringing the king, whenever he shall

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shall be in England, 24 pasties of fresh herrings at their first coming in.

Another held his manor in Norfolk of that king, by annually supplying him at his Exchequer with two vessels (called mites) of wine, made of pearmain. "Here," says the author, "it is worth observing, that in king Edward the First's time *Pearmain cyder* was called wine." This, therefore, seems to account for the mention of vineyards in old times in Kent, Suffex, and other parts of England; which has often puzzled many people to clear up.

Another person, in the 21st of the said king, held thirty acres of land (valued at ten shillings yearly in the Exchequer, or four pence per acre) in Cambridgeshire, for furnishing a truss of hay for the king's (Cloaca) *Privy*, whenever he shall come into that country.

Another (in the 34th of the same king) held a manor in Kent, for providing a man to lead three greyhounds when the king should go to Gascony, so long as a pair of shoes of four pence should last.

And so late as in the first year of Edward II. Peter Spelman made a fine to the king for his lands by serjeantry, to find one to serve as a soldier

dier for forty days in England, with a coat of mail; also to find *straw* for the king's bed, and *hay* for his horse.

Sundry other extraordinary tenures held of the crown, as for example; to pay for two white capons annually—for bearing the king's standard whenever he happens to be in the county of Suffex—to carry a rod or batteon before the king on certain occasions—by serving the office of chamberlain of the Exchequer (a very good place at present)—one by being marechal of the laundress of the king's army whilst in England—another supplies a servant for the king's larder—another for his wardrobe—others to supply servants for this or that forest—another a hawk—one for presenting the king with a pair of scarlet hose annually—others for supplying soldiers with armour for certain days, for this or that castle—one (for the manor of Elston in Nottinghamshire) pays the yearly rent of one pound weight of cummin-seed, two pair of gloves, and a steel needle—another to repair the iron-work of the king's plows.—Amongst others, Ela, countess of Warwick, in the 13th of Edward I. held the mauor of *Hokenerton* in Oxfordshire, in the barony of D'Oyly, by the serjeanty of carving at

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the king's table on his birth-day, and she to have the knife the king then used at table.

COIN.

It may be worth observing, that neither in England, nor in France, were the *pound* and *mark* *real* coins at this period, but mere denominations of a certain quantity of silver by *weight*; even the shillings were a mere denomination till the year 1504; and that the *real* coins were sub-denominations, and proportional parts of these two higher denominations; that is, so many, or a certain number of the lower denominations, being *real* coins, made up the quantity of silver contained in a *mark* weight, or *pound* weight; the mark weighing *eight*, and the pound *twelve* ounces *tr y*.

BUILDINGS.

A. D. 1246. The present fine and stately Abbey Church of Westminster was at this time begun to be built, as it now appears, excepting the finely rebuilt north front, and the later superstructures of the two beautiful western towers on the foundations of the old ones, and some other casings where the stone was worn out.

The

The houses of the city of London till this time were, like others in those days, mostly covered or thatched with *straw*: for it appears by Stowe and other historians, that an order some years before issued was in the year 1246 renewed, that all houses therein should be covered with tiles or slates, instead of *straw*; more especially such as stood in the best streets, which were then but few in comparison of the present; for what is now the heart of the city, about Cheapside, was, it seems, a void place called *Crown-field*, from the *Crown Inn* there, the bulk of the city lying *then* more eastward.

PRICE OF CORN.

The excessive price of *wheat* in the year 1257 (which is reckoned the best standard to determine the rate of living, or price of provisions), rose to the enormous sum of 1*l.* 4*s.* per quarter (that is 3*l.* 12*s.* of our money, or 9*s.* per bushel), which shews the wretched state of agriculture and commerce of these times; since, by the extended improvement in these two arts, and wise regulation of laws, the necessaries of life are procured from some quarter; by means of which, their prices neither rise much above, nor fall below, a certain standard, and by which we are happily

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relieved from those apprehensions of great scarcities and famine; which, in former times, were so justly to be dreaded.

SPECTACLES INVENTED.

A. D. 1261. About this time the learned Roger Bacon (a Franciscan friar of Oxford) flourished. His great skill in mathematicks brought on him the character of magician in this ignorant age, inſomuch that he was ſent for to *Rome* by the general of his order, where he was imprifoned, but afterwards he cleared himſelf, and returned to England. He died in 1284, leaving ſeveral works, whereof ſome are ſtill in manuſcript at Oxford. He is ſaid to have invented the reading-glaſſes, called Spectacles.

Whether or not Bacon was the inventor of ſpectacles ; we can ſcarcely put too high a value, on ſo excellent and uſeful an invention ; when we conſider, that, at that time of life, in which men uſually begin to have *dim* eyes, their judgments are generally in the higheſt perfection. The aſſiſtance, therefore, of glaſſes, enables them to be much longer uſeful to the public, and comfortable to themſelves. One cannot indeed help reflecting with compaſſion, on the condition of bookiſh
and

and contemplative men, before this invention; most of whom must have lost the use of their eyes, before their judgment. or their relish for reading or business was impaired. — We may further add; to this blessed and comfortable invention, we are no doubt indebted for many others, through their means, proportionably beneficial to mankind.

According to vulgar tradition, he also invented a speaking brazen head, of *Time is, &c.* If one may hazard a conjecture, might not this piece of mechanism be a first attempt, of constructing that curious and useful machine a *striking clock*, which in the rude state of the arts, and for want of proper artificers to execute what this great man had conceived, (but which is brought to so great a perfection, and become so common in our days) have tumbled to pieces from the strokes of the hammer upon the Bell? — At least, we may, without stretching our own faith very far, easily conceive, how the blind superstition, and credulity of the people in that age, might transfer their ideas of such a novelty, as a *striking clock*, to a speaking brazen head.

CHARACTER OF EDWARD I.

THE enterprizes finished by this prince, and the projects which he formed, and brought very near to a conclusion, were more prudent and more regularly conducted; and more advantageous to the solid interests of this kingdom, than those which were undertaken in any reign either of his ancestors or successors. He restored authority to the government, disordered by the weakness of his father; he maintained the laws against all the efforts of his turbulent barons; he fully annexed to the crown, the principality of Wales; he took the wisest and most effectual measures for reducing

ducing Scotland, to a like condition; and though the equity of this latter enterprize may reasonably be questioned; the circumstances of the two kingdoms promised such success, and the advantage was so visible, of uniting the whole island under one head, that those who give great indulgence to reasons of state in the measures of princes, will not be apt to regard this part of his conduct with much severity.

But Edward, however exceptionable his character may appear on the head of justice, is the model of a politic and warlike king. He possessed industry, penetration, courage, vigour, and enterprize. He was frugal in all expences that were not necessary; he knew how to open the public treasures on proper occasions; he punished criminals with severity; he was gracious and affable to his servants and courtiers; and being off

wise and effectual methods of preserving peace and order among his subjects. Yet, with all these good qualities, he cherished a dangerous ambition, to which he did not scruple to sacrifice the good of his country; witness his ruinous war with Scotland, which drained the kingdom of men and money, and gave rise to that rancorous enmity which proved so prejudicial to both nations. Though he is celebrated for his chastity and regular deportment, there is not, in the whole course of his reign, one instance of his liberality and munificence. He had great abilities, but no genius; and was an accomplished warrior, without the least spark of heroism.

SMOLLETT.

OBSERVA-

OBSERVATIONS ON THE CHARACTER OF EDWARD I.

NEXT to viewing a living character act up to the dignity of human nature ; and discharge those duties his station in life exacts, and his abilities enable him to fulfil ; is, perusing the written lives and celebrated deeds, of those illustrious men, who have signalized themselves by some memorable event, whereby mankind have been benefitted.

Yet in this respect how many mortals are there in every age, and in every country ; who have been born and passed through life as it were like a shadow, and left not the least trace of their existence behind ! And this must of necessity be the case, since few have the
ability,

and establishers of a public benefit !——
 These seem the most benevolent means
 of transmitting a lasting fame to pos-
 terity——The most innocent way of en-
 couraging that fond desire, so natural to
 the heart of man—and which is so beau-
 tifully described in the lines of Gray :

“ For who, to dumb forgetfulness a prey,
 “ This pleasing anxious being e’er resign’d,
 “ Left the warm precincts of the cheerful day,
 “ Nor cast one longing lingering look behind !”

And again by Cowper :

“ The summit gain’d behold the proud alcove
 “ That crowns it ! yet not all its pride secures,
 “ The grand retreat from injuries impress’d
 “ By rural carvers, who with knives deface
 “ The pannels leaving an obscure rude name
 “ In character uncouth, and spelt amiss,
 “ So strong the zeal t’ immortalize himself
 “ Beats in the breast of man, that ev’n a few,
 “ Few transient years, won from th’ abyss ab-
 “ horr’d

“ Of blank oblivion, seem a glorious prize,
 “ And even to a clown.”

The Sopha.

Edward

Edward the First is one of those celebrated characters, of whom it is recorded that, "The projects which he formed
"and brought very near to a conclusion,
"were more prudent and advantageous
"to the solid interests of this kingdom,
"than those which were undertaken in
"any reign, either of his ancestors or
"successors."

But as the qualities of this great prince were more consistent with what may become a king than a subject, Edward being the model of a politic and warlike king, we shall not continue our reflections, by selecting any other traits in this character for the use of subordinate rank. And as the establishment of the *house of commons*, and sending members to parliament, make so memorable an epocha in our constitution, and as this act seems principally the work of Edward

ward (some steps being taken towards it in the preceding reign), it may not be amiss to observe the motives which urged, and the progressive steps taken in this event; which is given in the historical notes, selected from Hume.

NOTES HISTORICAL.

Edward perceived his power diminish in proportion as his profits were retrenched. Such were the mighty alterations which had already taken place, or were gradually advancing, in the house of peers; that is, in the parliament, for there was anciently no other house. In this situation, it was natural for the king to court the friendship of the lesser barons, whose influence was no wise dangerous, and who sought protection under the shadow of a throne. He desired, therefore, to have their presence in parliament, where

where they served to controul the resolutions of the great. To exact a regular attendance, would have produced confusion, and would have imposed too heavy a burden on them.

He therefore dispensed with most of the lesser barons in parliament; and, in return for this indulgence (for such it was then esteemed), required them, in each country, to choose a certain number of their own body, whose charges they bore, and who, having gained their confidence, carried with them of course the authority of the whole order. The number sent up by each county varied, at the will of the prince. They took their seat among the other peers, because by their tenure they belonged to that order.

But EDWARD's distresses made him think of new devices, and summon all the representatives to parliament. This period, which is the twenty-third of his reign, seems to be the real and true epoch of the House of Commons, and the first faint dawning of popular government in England. The salutary practice of protecting the lower and more industrious orders of the state, was embraced; and whom they found disposed to obey the civil magistrate, and whose ingenuity and labour furnish-
ed:

ed commodities requisite for the ornament of peace, and support of war. To support and protect whom, Boroughs were erected by royal patent within the demesne lands: liberty of trade was conferred on them: the inhabitants were allowed to farm, at a fixed rent, their own tolls and customs; they were permitted to elect their own magistrates, without obliging them to attend the sheriff, or county courts; and some shadow of independence was gradually acquired to the people by means of these equitable privileges. When the multiplied necessities of the crown produced a greater demand for supply, the king, whose prerogative entitled him to exact it, found that he had not force sufficient to enforce his edicts, and that it was requisite, before he imposed taxes, to smooth the way for his demand, and to obtain the previous consent of the boroughs. The inconvenience of transacting business with every particular borough was soon felt; and Edward became sensible, that the most expeditious way of obtaining supply was to assemble together deputies of all the boroughs. For this reason, he issued writs to the sheriffs, enjoining them to send to parliament, at least with two knights of the shire, two deputies from each borough within their county, and these provided with sufficient powers from their

their community, to consent in their name to what he and his council should require of them.

After the election of these deputies, by the aldermen and common council, they gave sureties for their attendance before the king and parliament: their charges were born by the borough, which sent them: and they had so little idea of appearing as legislators, a character extremely wide of their low rank and condition, that no intelligence could be more disagreeable to any borough than to find that they must elect; or to any individual than that he was elected, to a trust from which no profit or honour could possibly be expected.

The growth of commerce, in due time, augmented the private wealth and consideration of the burgesses; the great and frequent demands of the crown increased their publick importance; and so they resembled the knights of shires in one material circumstance, that of representing particular bodies of men, it no longer appeared unsuitable to unite them together in the same house, and to confound their rights and privileges. Thus the third estate, that of commons, reached its present form; and as the gentlemen made thenceforwards no scruple of appearing as deputies

ties of boroughs, the distinction between the members was entirely lost, and the lower house acquired thence a great accession of weight and importance in the kingdom.

The present cities and boroughs, says Wight, were then little better than villages; they were a part of the demesnes either of the king or of great men; and the nature of the government favoured too much of aristocracy to countenance such a representation.

The first summons for calling the representatives of counties and boroughs, that is now extant, issued no earlier than the 49th year of Henry III. (anno 1266). The first regular summons we meet with directed to sheriffs, for the election of citizens and burgeses, is in the 23d of Edward I. (1295). It is uncertain when the Parliament of England was first separated into two houses. The separation must however have taken place before the year 1376, when we find a speaker of the commons elected by them.

From this period we see a regular parliament, consisting of lords and commons; the first, composed of the ecclesiastical dignities, and the great barons or peers, who were summoned *singulatim* by the king's letters; and the second, of the representatives

representatives of counties and boroughs, who were summoned per vicecomites. By an act of the 4th of Edward III. cap. 14. a parliament was ordered to be held once a year, and oftener if necessary. By a statute of the 16 of Charles II. cap. 1. the sitting and holding of parliaments were not to be intermitted or discontinued above three years. This indeed had been previously ordered by an act of the long parliament in 1640, known by the name of "the triennial bill", which enacted, that "a parliament should be held at least every three years, though the king should neglect to call it, in order to prevent the inconvenience arising from a too long intermission of parliaments." And although the clauses in this act compelling the sending out of writs, even without the king's consent, were thought to be an encroachment on the prerogative, or, as lord Clarendon says, "derogatory to majesty, and letting the reins too loose to the people," and were accordingly repealed by the act of the 16th of Charles II. yet the principle was retained, it being ordered even by that act, that "the sitting and holding of parliament shall not be intermitted for above three years." By the statute of the 6th of William and Mary, cap. 2, it was enacted, that from thenceforth a parliament should be held

held once in three years at least, and that no parliament should continue longer than three years from the day in which by the writs it was appointed to meet. But by the act of the 1st of Geo. I. cap. 38, it was ordered, that the then and all subsequent parliaments should have continuance for seven years, unless sooner dissolved by his majesty or his successors.

Wight's Inquiry into the Rise and Progress
of Parliament.

Another Legislative Body created.

During Edward's stay in Guienne, he was seized with a dangerous distemper, and made a vow to revisit the Holy Land, provided his health should be re-established; accordingly, when he recovered, he took the cross, but fixed no time for his departure. Perhaps he thought Heaven would be as well pleased with his persecuting the Jews of Guienne, whom he first fleeced of a considerable sum, and then banished. Understanding that the regulations of the statute of Winton were utterly neglected, that the roads were as dangerous as ever, from the insolence of robbers who preyed upon their fellow-subjects with impunity, and that the want of civil policy was owing to the privileges of the barons, who interrupted

interrupted the course of justice, and would not suffer criminals to be pursued through their territories; he appointed a new kind of justiciaries, immediately dependent on the royal authority, and impowered to administer justice in all parts of the kingdom, to which their commissions extended; these were granted to certain knights, in every county in England, in order to keep the peace, and take care that the statute of Winton should be duly observed; and the sheriffs were directed to assist them with the posse, if necessary, to execute their orders and their warrants. Such was the origin of Justices of the peace, so called from their institution. **SMOLLET.**

Since this period the legislative power of this body has been greatly extended.

ANCIENT FEAST.

Specimen of a feast at this period, from the quantity of provisions provided at Edward's coronation feast. By royal mandate to the sheriffs of Suffex, Warwick, Leicester, Somerset, Dorset, and Essex, they were to send up to London each a certain number, amounting in all to 278 fitches of bacon, 450 hogs, 443 oxen, 430 sheep, 22600 hens and capons, and 13 fat goats. What the king sent for from other counties does not

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appear ;

appear; but from the huge quantity of provisions from the abovementioned places only, we may conjecture the number of guests to have been prodigious. *Rymer's Fadera.*

At this coronation Alexander III. king of Scotland, as homager for his possessions in England, attended, and was allowed for travelling expences from the river *Tweed* 100 shillings (15*£.* of our money) per day; when at court 30 shillings per day; 12 *wastels* and 12 *finnels* of the king's (two sorts of fine bread), 4 quarts of the best wine, and 6 quarts of ordinary wine, 2 pound weight of pepper, and four pound of cinnamon, four wax lights, 40 long perches of the king's best candles, and 24 ordinary ones; and, on his return, was conducted back as he had been escorted on his entrance, by the bishop of Durham, and sheriff of Northumberland, with the same allowance.

MORTMAIN ACT.

A. D. 1279. This year was made that celebrated law called the *mortmain act*, whereby all persons were restrained from giving by will or otherwise, their estates to religious houses, and to other purposes, without licence of the king, societies that never die. It was called the *Mortmain*

main act, as *Rapin* well explains it, because it prevented estates from falling into *dead hands* for ever, and did not circulate, as other property does, for the service of the king and public, without hopes of ever changing its owner.

ROADS.

A. D. 1285. This year was enacted the first law relative to highways and roads leading from one market town to another; the principal motive of which seems to have been to prevent robberies, which at this time were enormous, which must have been owing partly to the bad disposition of the people, and partly to the want of good government. In the 13th Edward I. cap. 5. it is enacted, that the lord of the soil shall enlarge those *ways* where bushes, woods, or ditches be, where men may lurk, 200 feet on each side of those roads; which, if neglected, and robberies ensue, the lord shall be answerable for the felony. Notwithstanding the great increase of population, and the many robberies committed in these days, how much safer are our persons and property in the present state of things, owing to trade, industry, and liberty, being more firmly established; good laws enacted, and better executed.

WATER CONVEYED.

A. D. 1237. This year was completed and opened the great conduit in Cheapside, being supplied with sweet water, conveyed in pipes of lead under ground, from Paddington, in the manor of Tyburn. This great work was fifty years in perfecting. The conduit was rebuilt and enlarged in the year 1479. HOWELL.

JUDGES SALARIES.

A. D. 1299. Judges salaries at this time, viz. Chief Justice of the King's Bench, 50 marks; of the Chief Baron, 40*l.*; and each of the other Judges 20*l.* a year salary.

Miscellaneous Observations of particular customs of living and cloathing in the thirteenth century.

The custom was, for the whole family to sit round the fire, in the middle of a smoky hall, the passage for the smoke being through the cieling; chimnies not being then invented.

Laflamma, a writer in the 14th century (quoted by Voltaire), complains, that simplicity and frugality had given way to luxury, that they but then eat flesh three times a week. They had

no-idea of wax candles, and even those of tallow were deemed a luxury; inasmuch that the better sort used *splinters* of wood instead of *candles*. They wore *uncolled* shirts; but now (says he) we wear *linen*. Table linen was very scarce in England. Wine was only sold by apothecaries, as a cordial. Private houses were all of wood in Paris as well as London. It was reckoned a kind of luxury to ride in a two-wheeled cart in the ill-paved and dirty streets of Paris, it being forbidden to citizens wives, by king Philip the *fair*. "Let no one presume," says an edict of Charles VI. "to treat with more than a soup and two dishes." The use of silver knives and forks, spoons and cups, was a great piece of luxury. The Jews generally extorted 20*l.* per cent. for interest of money.

MARINER'S COMPASS.

A. D. 1302. It seems generally agreed, that the mariner's *compass* was the invention of this year (the power of the load-stone had been discovered before; see a note at the end of *John*, p. 104 *annot* 200), by one Flavio de Gioia, a native of Amalphi, an ancient commercial city in the kingdom of Naples. A short history of this useful invention may not be unacceptable.

The first inventor, Flavio, used it at first only for four, or at the most for *eight* principal winds or points; it was afterwards improved by the people of Bruges in Flanders to thirty-two points. The English claim the invention of that convenient method of suspending the box containing the magnetic needle, so as always to keep it in an horizontal position. The variation of the needle, or its declination from the true north point, was discovered by Sebastian Cabot, *anno* 1500: and the inclination or dipping of the needle, when hung so as to play vertically to a point beneath the horizon, was first discovered by Robert Norman, an Englishman, *anno* 1576. Lastly, the variation of the variation, or the different declinations of the needle at different times in the same place, was first discovered by our countryman Gillibrand, about the year 1634.

The advantages derived from this incomparable invention, to the improvement of navigation, and extension of commerce, are great indeed; since, before this discovery, navigators seldom durst venture out of sight of land, and a voyage by this coasting method, which would take up three years, may be made with more security in the same number of weeks. By the assistance of the compass, the navigator can sail for some time in the darkest weather,

weather, even deprived of the comfort and assistance of the heavenly luminaries, and every other mark from heaven, earth, and sea, for his guide, securely on, generally knowing by his reckonings, where he is, and how far distant from his intended port.

By the help of this noble instrument it was that Columbus discovered a *new* western world; although he was not a little puzzled with the variation of the needle; that discovery, and how to allow for it, being not at that time made. The Portuguese found the way by sea to India and China, and the English and Dutch the several useful discoveries towards the north pole; all which but for the compass, would probably have still remained unknown; and all the wealth and comforts of life, acquired in consequence of these discoveries, and the improvement of the arts, by which many hands are employed, would still have remained in oblivion.

CHARACTER OF EDWARD II.

It is not easy to imagine a man more innocent or inoffensive than this unhappy king; nor a prince less fitted for governing that fierce and turbulent people subjected to his authority. He was obliged to devolve on others the weight of government which he had neither ability nor inclination to bear: the same indolence and want of penetration led him to make choice of ministers and favourites, which were not always best qualified for the trust committed to them. The seditious grandees, pleased with his weakness, and complaining of it, under pretence of attaching his ministers, insulted his person, and invaded his authority;

thority; and the impatient populace, ignorant of the source of their grievances, threw all the blame upon the king, and increased the publick disorders by their faction and insolence. It was in vain to look for protection from the laws, whose voice, always feeble in those times, was not heard in the din of arms: what could not defend the king, was less able to give shelter to any one of his people; the whole machine of government was torn in pieces, with fury and violence; and men, instead of complaining against the manners of the age, and the form of their constitution, which required the most steady and the most skilful hand to conduct them, imputed all errors to his person who had the misfortune to be intrusted with the reins of empire. Murdered 21 September, 1327.

HUME.

ANOTHER CHARACTER OF EDWARD II.

THUS perished Edward II. after having atoned by his sufferings for all the errors of his conduct. He is said to have resembled his father in the accomplishments of his person, as well as in his countenance: but in other respects he seems only to have inherited the defects of his character; for he was cruel and illiberal, without his valour or capacity. He had levity, indolence, and irresolution, in common with other weak princes; but the distinguishing foible of his character, was that unaccountable passion for the reigning favourites, to which he sacrificed every other consideration of policy and convenience, and at last fell a miserable victim. **SMOLLETT.**

OBSERVA.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE CHARACTER OF
EDWARD II.

IN our different studies and researches after knowledge; there is one especial art, which we should continually aim at acquiring, that is, *of learning in whatever state we are, therewith to be content.* And yet there is probably nothing so difficult to obtain as this temperature of mind, and government of the passions; when it is considered, how many are subjected to the most grievous and loathsome employments, whilst the hands of many are exempt from bodily labour, and a few graced with a sceptre—some trudging on foot all the days of their life; and others are rolling along at their ease, in

all the sumptuousness of state.—One is born to command, another in a perpetual state of vassalage, submitting to the whims of an overbearing and merciless master. In short, how many are toiling and sweating under daily labour, and can scarcely supply the cravings of nature with food, or screen the body from the piercing blast with cloathing, but must minister to the calls of those whose pallid appetites scarcely know where to chuse from the overcharged board, and whose food is again drenched with the juice of the grape, even to sickness!—How difficult may we suppose it, under these unequal distributions of fortune, to learn the lesson of resignation!

But since the constitution and nature of things, in this state of our sojourning here, is such, and likely so to continue, the inference we would draw is, that although such splendid examples, in one
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point of view, seem to possess ease and happiness ; a due estimation should be made of the troubles their elevated stations expose them to ; and if, upon a proper comparison of the *good* with *the evil*, a balance is found not so great in favour of the former as on a superficial view might appear, the ways of Providence to man will thence be vindicated and justified.

And since the page of history in general is little else than a recapitulation of feuds and animosities, of hostilities having been commenced on such and such days, of thousands being cut to pieces in this place, and ten thousand massacred in that, the stratagems of war, and the intrigues of a court ; may not the best use of the study of history to the generality of readers be this ; from viewing the precarious tenure on which the most celebrated personages have

have held their lives and possessions; the miseries many have undergone, torn from their exalted state, and plunged into the deepest distress; teach us, if any thing can, *to learn in whatever state we are, therewith to be content.*

To illustrate and enforce what we have above advanced, we will select some examples from the unhappy fates of several of the princes who have filled the English throne, which is no small catalogue.

Harold was defeated in battle and slain by William the Conqueror. Henry II. died of a broken heart, occasioned, by the revolt of his children, and the unnatural behaviour of his son John. Richard I. received his death from the rankling wound of an arrow, which an archer in revenge let fly at him. Edward II, the subject of these reflections, most cruelly murdered in cool blood.

Richard

Richard II. starved to death in prison. Henry VI. supposed to be killed by the duke of Gloucester. Edward V. and his brother murdered in the Tower by order of their uncle the said duke of Gloucester. Richard III, this assassin himself, slain at the battle of Bosworth; his body, stripped stark-naked, covered with wounds, filth, and blood, was thrown over a horse's back, with the legs on one side, and the arms on the other. Charles the First brought to the block and beheaded.

Such is the bloody list, and tragical end, of some of the crowned heads of this kingdom: but, if we would survey the history of Asiatic monarchs, their annals are, indeed, written in bloody characters.

Nor is titled honour, in the graduated scale of order, in the state, exempted from paying the tribute due to
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the elevation of its rank, not to mention the fates of those who have suffered under the caprice of weak princes; intrigues of envious ministers; or secret machinations of court favourites. Their country demands a sacrifice, and we see them nobly step forth in its service; forgoing domestic ease and affluence, the endearments of friends, and caresses of a family; bravely daring danger and death.—To select a few modern examples:

Witness a CORNWALLIS, crossing the great Atlantic, traversing the deserts of the new world, harrassed by a superior army; wanting even the necessaries of life; defeated and captured. Witness an ELLIOTT, abandoning his farm, the cultivation of which was the delight of his waning years; step forth at his country's call; and defend a garrison on the barren rock of Gibraltar, against
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the united force of two powerful nations, submitting to the hardest duties of the youngest officers, and partaking of the scanty meal of the lowly subaltern. A MANNERS, gloriously exerting himself for his king and country, become a mutilated corse, and dying in the agony of gun-shot wounds. Nor should the unhappy fate of the accomplished ANDRE be unnoticed; his name, dear in the eye of reason and the heart of sensibility, is immortalized by the elegiac song of a SEWARD:

“In plaintive strains, at sighing Friendship’s
call,

Hear tuneful Seward mourn her André’s fall;
And wrap the felon cord that stopp’d his breath,
In radiant Glory’s amaranthine wreath.”

Progress of Refinement.

There is, therefore, some consolation to inferiority of station; for, although it may not possess the luxuries of life,
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it enjoys some of its comforts ; if the small pittance be earned by daily labour, and by the sweat of the brow, he who so purchases it, can sit down to his scanty meal with appetite, and arise from it refreshed. If the canopied couch doth not cover his head, nor the downy pillow lie under his wearied limbs, he seeks rest and finds it, without apprehension of assassination.—“ The sleep of the “ labouring man is sweet, eat he little “ or eat he much.” And hence subordination may learn resignation to her state, since to purchase honours, crowns, and dignities, the tribute is toil, danger, and, as we have seen, often unnatural death.

NOTES HISTORICAL.

* * The kingdom was afflicted with a grievous famine during several years of this reign. Perpetual rains and cold weather not only destroyed the harvest, but bred a mortality among the cattle, and raised every kind of food to an enormous price.

The parliament, in 1315, endeavoured to fix more moderate rates on commodities; not sensible that such an attempt is impracticable, and that it were impossible to reduce the price of food by any other expedient than introducing plenty: for, in reality, the increase of prices is a necessary consequence of scarcity; and laws, instead of preventing it, only increase the evil, by cramping and restraining commerce. The parliament, in consequence, repealed the ensuing year the ordinance which they had found so fruitless. Since this period, laws have wisely passed, to grant a bounty on the exportation of corn, when under a certain price, for the encouragement of agriculture; by which means the farmer is certain

tain of a market for his produce, which stimulates him to industry, because the ports are shut against the importation of foreign grain till it arrives at the price stipulated, when they are again opened to supply the nation.

At this period it was usual for princes, and the great nobility, to make settlements of their velvet beds, and filken robes, in the same manner as their estates and manors: a proof of the ignorance of the age in manufactories; and we may reasonably conclude in the tillage of land, and that the country was not then populous.

BILLS OF EXCHANGE.

King Edward, in the first year of his reign, lays an injunction on the Pope's *nuncio*, that neither the English coin, nor *silver in mass*, nor in *bullion*, shall be carried out of the kingdom to the Pope, but that the sum so raised shall be delivered to merchants in England, to be remitted to the Pope by way of exchange.

This order of the king's, however, shews that in those days they were not well acquainted with the nature of exchanges, since at last it will be

be the same to the nation, whether they export money in specie, or remit it by bills of exchange; for, in either way, it contributes to turn the balance against such a country. This fact is now well understood by any one who is the least conversant with the theory of commerce: for, although there exist laws still prohibiting the exportation of our coin, yet if there be a general balance due from us to any other country, that balance must undoubtedly be made good, either by our own coin directly, though *secretly*, carried abroad; or else we must pay the demands by the sale of our merchandize in some other foreign country, whither we must otherwise have carried our money. The consequence, therefore, is, that, by paying that debt by means of the merchandize, we so far prevent the produce thereof being returned to us in either foreign coin or bullion, or bills of exchange, which at last amount to the same thing; and, so far as this operates, lessens the balance of trade in our favour with that other country. This point was not then, nor indeed some time after, well understood.

PARLIAMENTARY AID.

A. D. 1315. The parliament granted an aid to the king, for his war against Scotland, namely, of every town, except cities and burghs (probably parliament towns), and except in the king's domains (who were obliged to aid the king by their tenures), one *flout footman*, armed with a sword, bow and arrow, a sling, and a lance, &c. at the charge of each respective town for 60 days, at fourpence per diem.

FEUDAL TENURES.

Thomas earl of Leicester's vast annual expence, with remarks on the account, and of *feudal tenure* lands held by the Sovereign, upon condition that he and his heirs do acknowledge the donor to be their Lord and Sovereign, and bear faith and allegiance to him and to his for the said tenure, and do such service for the same as is covenanted between them, or holding from the king in those times. From *Stowe's* Survey of London, copied by him from the account of the earls cofferer, or paymaster, viz.

1. Paid for account of the pantry, buttery and kitchen,	3405 0 0
2. Grocery of all sorts,	180 17 0
2	3.

3. 369 pipes of red wine, and two of
white wine. 104 17 6
4. 1704 pounds of wax, vermillion and
turpentine. 314 7 4
5. Charge of the earl's great horses,
and servants wages. 436 4 3
6. Linen for the earl, his chaplain, and
his table, 43 17 6
7. 129 dozen skins of parchment and
ink, 4 8 3
8. Two scarlet cloths for the earl; one
of russet for the bishop of Anjou;
70 pieces of blue for the knights;
28 ditto for the esquires; 15
pieces for the clerks; 15 for the
officers; 19 for the grooms; 5
for the archers; 4 for the min-
strels and carpenters. 460 15 0
9. Seven furs of powdered ermin; se-
ven hords of purple; 395 furs of
budge for the live ies of barons,
knights, and clerks; and 123
furs of lamb for the esquires. 147 17 8
10. 168 yards of russet cloth, and 24
coats for poor men, with money,
Maunday Thursday. 8 16 0

168 ROYAL CHARACTERS.

- | | | |
|-----|---|----------|
| 11. | 68 saffron-coloured cloths for the barons and knights in summer ;
12 red cloths for the clerks ; 26 cloths for the squires ; one for the officers, and four <i>Ray cloths</i> *,
for carpets in the hall. | 345 13 8 |
| 12. | 100 pieces of green silk for the knights ; 14 budge furs for fur-coats ; 13 hoods of budge for clerks ; and 75 furs of lamb for liveries in summer. | 72 19 0 |
| 13. | saddles for the summer liveries, | 51 6 8 |
| 14. | Fee paid to earls, barons, knights and esquires. | 623 15 5 |
| 15. | 24 silver dishes, 24 ditto saucers ;
24 cups, one pair of pater noster, and one silver coffin, all bought this year, silver being at 1s. 8d. per ounce. | 163 5 6 |
| 16. | The countess's disbursements. | 440 0 5 |
| 17. | 2319 pounds of tallow candles, and 1870 pounds of Paris candles. | 31 14 3 |
| 18. | Six barrels of sturgeon, 6000 dried fish of all sorts, and many other | |

* Cloth that has never been coloured or dyed.

items,

Items, amounting to total expence for the year.

	533 4 6
or £21,927 our money, and	£. 7309 0 0

compared with the rates of living, viz. as 5 to 1, is £109,635 of our money.

OBSERVATIONS.

The earl's vast estate, both in England and Anjou, was, we see, in a great measure laid out in the equipages of the barons, knights, and esquires, who were his retainers and vassals by knights-fees *, being to do him military service in the king's wars, by virtue of the number of *fees*, which he himself owed to our kings on that account. And by this single article alone may probably be formed a more clear and adequate idea of the *feudal tenures*, than an explanation by a greater number of words. For here is a number of earls, as well as of barons, knights, and esquires, holding of, and liable to be called out with their men and arms to attend on one *great earl*, who, by virtue of his holding so many knights fees of the king, was bound to appear in his majesty's armies, with a

* So much inheritance as is sufficient yearly to maintain a knight, which in Henry III's time was settled at fifteen pounds, or two hundred acres of land.

proportionable number of armed horse and foot, whom we see (by the foregoing account) he is obliged to supply (all but those of the degree of earls) with cloathing and accoutrements. So that in one view he appears with the splendour of a sovereign prince, although he be only a vassal subject of the crown. And this is the idea we are to form of a great lord, who under the feudal system, holds a number of knights-fees under the crown, many of which are held under himself by his sub-vassals or tenants, who consequently were bound to attend him, in like manner as he was bound to attend the king.

CHARACTER OF EDWARD III.

THE English are apt to consider with peculiar fondness the history of Edward the Third, and to esteem his reign, as it was one of the longest, the most glorious also, which occurs in the annals of the nation. The ascendant which they began to have over France, their rival and national enemy, makes them cast their eyes on this period with great complacency, and sanctifies every measure which Edward embraced for that end. But the domestick government is really more admirable, than his foreign victories; and England enjoyed, by his prudence and vigour of administration, a

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longer interval of domestic peace and tranquillity, than she had been blest with in any former period, or than she experienced for many years after. He gained the affections of the great, and curbed their licentiousness: he made them feel his power, without their daring, or even being inclined to murmur at it; his affable and obliging behaviour, his munificence and generosity, made them submit with pleasure to his dominion; his valour and conduct made them successful in most of their enterprizes; and their unquiet spirits, directed against a public enemy, had no leisure to breed disturbances, to which they were naturally so much inclined, and which the fame of the government seemed so much to authorize. This was the chief benefit which resulted from Edward's victories and conquests. His foreign wars were,

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in other respects, neither founded in justice, nor directed to any very salutary purpose. His attempt against the king of Scotland, a minor, and a brother-in-law, and the revival of his grandfather's claim of superiority over that kingdom, were both unreasonable and ungenerous; and he allowed himself to be too soon reduced, by the glaring prospects of French conquest, from the acquisition of a point which was practicable, and which might really, if attained, have been of lasting utility to his country and to his successors. But the glory of a conqueror is so dazzling to the vulgar, and the animosity of nations so extreme, that the fruitless desolation of so fine a part of Europe as France is totally disregarded by us, and never considered as a blemish in the character or conduct of this prince: and indeed, from the un-

fortunate state of human nature, it will commonly happen, that a sovereign of great genius, such as Edward, who usually finds every thing easy in the domestick government, will turn himself towards military enterprizes, where alone he meets opposition, and where he has full exercise for his industry and capacity. Died 21st of June, aged 65, in the 51st year of his reign. HUME.

ANOTHER CHARACTER OF EDWARD III.

EDWARD's constitution had been impaired by the fatigues of his youth; so that he began to feel the infirmities of old age, before they approach the common course of nature: and now he was seized with a malignant fever, attended with

with eruptions, that soon put a period to his life. When his distemper became so violent, that no hope of his recovery remained, all his attendants forsook him, as a bankrupt no longer able to requite their services. The ungrateful ALICE, waiting until she perceived him in the agonies of death, was so inhuman as to strip him of his rings and jewels, and leave him without one domestic to close his eyes, and do the last offices to his breathless corse. In this deplorable condition, bereft of comfort and assistance, the mighty Edward lay expiring; when a priest, not quite so savage as the rest of his domestics, approached his bed; and, finding him still breathing, began to administer some comfort to his soul. Edward had not yet lost all perception, when he found himself thus abandoned and forlorn, in the last moments of his life. He was just able to express a deep

sense of sorrow and contrition for the errors of his conduct, and died pronouncing the name of JESUS.

Such was the piteous and obscure end of Edward the Third, undoubtedly one of the greatest princes that ever swayed the scepter of England; whether we respect him as a warrior, a law-giver, a monarch, or a man. He possessed all the romantic spirit of Alexander; the penetration, the fortitude, the polished manners, of Julius; the liberality, the munificence, the wisdom, of Augustus Cæsar. He was tall, majestic, finely shaped, with a piercing eye, and aquiline visage. He excelled all his contemporaries in feats of arms, and personal address. He was courteous, affable, and eloquent; of a free deportment, and agreeable conversation; and had the art of commanding the affection of his subjects, without seeming to solicit popularity. The love of glory was certainly

tainly the predominant passion of Edward, to the gratification of which he did not scruple to sacrifice the feelings of humanity, the lives of his subjects, and the interests of his country. And nothing could have induced or enabled his people to bear the load of taxes with which they were encumbered in his reign, but the love and admiration of his person, the fame of his victories, and the excellent laws and regulations which the parliament enacted with his advice and concurrence.

SMOLLETT.

REFLECTIONS ON THE DEATH OF
EDWARD III.

There is ONE THING we should always keep in remembrance, *namely*, that we are all subjects of mortality, and that,

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when

when the period of our short existence may arrive, it is as impossible for us to foresee, as out of our power to prevent. The pens of moralists have, indeed, been frequently and elegantly employed upon this awful subject, the absurdity of delaying what sets an eternity at hazard; the great importance of what is at stake, and the fatal consequences of wilful negligence. And not only Divines, but, amidst the improvements of human science, the calculators of the value of human life also, who, notwithstanding their accuracy in this kind of knowledge, yet, in contempt of their own calculations of the probable duration of life, act as if their *own* at least was endued with immortality; so that whatever this science may have contributed to worldly wisdom in making bargains, it seems to have contributed little to the service of morality: and, notwithstanding

withstanding the many daily examples, which are more powerful than precept, mankind still pursue their favourite propensities with as much eagerness as if they were to live to eternity.

But, besides this final and natural period of mortal existence, there is no one that breathes the breath of life, but is subjected to a number of casualties and calamities, from which neither rank nor title, abundance of wealth, nor humility of situation, can exempt him. Even the very mightiest of mortals, who is to-day exulting in the strength of his arm, or the faculties of his mind, may, to-morrow, be humbled to the dust; for there is still One mightier than he.

To learn this lesson well, we need only view life in its natural state of impotence and nakedness in the chamber of sickness; and we shall there find Vanity divested of her robes, Power de-

NOTES HISTORICAL.

Honestly rewarded. Generous conduct exemplified.

It is reported of this prince, that having once before the attack of a town promised the soldiers the plunder, one private man happened to fall upon a chest full of money, which he immediately brought to the earl of Derby, as thinking it too great for himself to keep possession of. But the earl told him, that his promise did not depend on the *greatness* or *smallness* of the sum, and bid him keep it all for his own use.

A. D. 1339. King Edward III. assumes the title of King of France. The inscription of the great seal was altered from the Duke of Aquitaine to King of France; and, instead of the former motto, he assumed that of *Dieu et mon Droit* (God and my right) alluding to the design of supporting his pretensions to the crown of that kingdom.

A SINGULAR INVENTION.

A. D. 1330. According to many authors, gunpowder and guns were invented this year by

one Swartz (a German monk of Cologne), or, as some others say, by one Anklitzen of Friburg, like many other considerable inventions, by *mere chance*; for, whilst he (Swartz) was preparing a pot of nitre for physical or chemical use, a spark of fire happened to fall into it, and made it fly up: whereupon he made a composition of what we now call *gunpowder*, and putting it into a hollow instrument of brass or iron, and setting fire to it, it made such an explosion as he expected. It is said, that Roger Bacon, the monk we have mentioned before, understood at least the theory of gunpowder, having in one of his letters observed, that out of sulphur, saltpetre, and charcoal dust, he could make fire to burn at what distance he pleased, and could cause thunder and lightning thereby, which could destroy cities and armies with a great noise.

It is related, by some historians, that Edward employed this new invention at the battle of Créffy, in the year 1346, by placing in the front of his army some pieces of artillery, the first of which had been made use of on any remarkable occasion in Europe. This wonderful discovery has changed by degrees the whole art of war, and, by consequence, many circumstances in the political government of Europe. But the ignorance

rance of that age, in the mechanical arts, rendered the progress of this new invention very slow. The artillery first framed were so clumsy, and of such difficult management, that men were not immediately sensible of their use and efficacy; and even to this day improvements have been continually making on this *furious engine*, which, though it seemed contrived for the destruction of mankind, and the overthrow of empires, has, in the issue, rendered war much less bloody, and has given greater stability to civil societies. NATIONS, by its means, have been brought more to a level; CONQUESTS have become less frequent and rapid; SUCCESS in war has been reduced nearly to be a matter of calculation; and any nation, overmatched by its enemy, either yields to its demands, or secures itself by alliances against their violence and invasion.

Behaviour of the King and Prince of Wales at the battle of Cressy. This prince was afterwards known by the name of the Black Prince.

Edward, and the prince his son, the morning before the battle, received the sacrament with great devotion; and their behaviour denoted the calm intrepidity of invincible courage and resignation; even the prince of Wales's deportment,

ment, though a boy, was in all respects manly, heroic, and worthy of the great example he proposed to imitate. The body of the army which he conducted being attacked both in front and flank at the same time, the earl of Warwick dispatched a messenger to the king, desiring him to advance to the prince's succour. Edward, whom he found in a windmill, viewing the engagement, asked with great deliberation if his son was dead, wounded, or unhorsed? And being answered in the negative, "Well then," said he, "go back and tell Warwick, that I shall not intermeddle in the fray, but let my boy win his spurs by his own valour."

Edward, seeing the victory accomplished, descended from the hill, and, running up to the prince of Wales, embraced him tenderly in the sight of the whole army, saying, "My valiant son, God grant you may persevere in the course you have so gloriously begun; you have acquitted yourself nobly, and well are you worth the kingdom that will be your inheritance." The prince made no other reply than that of a profound obeisance; for his modesty and moderation were altogether surprising and unexampled.

He

He wore three ostrich feathers for his crest; and, as he acted in the capacity of a volunteer, he assumed the motto of *Ich Dien*, which in the German language signifies *I serve*. This device young Edward appropriated to himself, and it has been adopted by all succeeding princes of Wales.

Edward introduces an useful manufacture.

A. D. 1331. Edward observing the riches and power of Flanders and Brabant arose from their vast woollen manufactory, and that this was wrought with English-wool, inferred it would greatly benefit his kingdom if he could transfer the trade, by persuading the artificers to settle in England. In consequence of which, he grants a letter of protection to one *Kemp* of Flanders, a woollen-cloth weaver, to come over and exercise his trade here, and teach it to such of our people as should incline to learn it, which protection extended to all his (*Kemp's*) servants, apprentices, goods, and chattels; and further promises to all others of his occupation, as also to all dyers, fullers, &c. In consequence whereof, seventy families were this same year brought over to England by king Edward's invitation, for promoting the

the woollen manufacture, and teaching it to our people. Rymer's *Fœdera*.

Woollen cloth of some sort nevertheless, was made in this nation ever since the time of the Romans, who first brought the Britons to wear cloth, instead of the skins of beasts; though the king, lords, and the higher clergy, probably had their best cloathing from other parts, which the body of the people could then by no means afford to purchase, their riches consisting wholly in cattle, who probably, at least the lowest people, wore leather doublets and stays, or boddices, for cheapness and duration.

Amount of the Customs of the port of London
for one year.

The Customs this year, 1331, amounted to 1000 marks per month, or 8000*l.* per ann. that is, to 24000*l.* of modern money: which, considering the lowness of customs then, is a proof of that city's having had, even then, considerable foreign commerce. Sir Rob. Cotton.

Ships of war: their meanness in these times.

A. D. 1335. King Edward issues a precept to the mayor and sheriffs of London, to take up all ships

ships in their port, and of all other ports in the kingdom, of the burden of forty tons and upwards; and to furnish the same with armed men and other necessaries for war, against the Scots his enemies, confederated with the French and Flemings, anno 1341. Fœdera.

It may appear very extraordinary in these days, that in the 14th of Edward III. a statute should be passed, prohibiting interest for money lent, as being the *bane of commerce*.

GOLD first coined in ENGLAND.

In the 18th of Edward III. an act passed for coining three different coins in gold, wherein it is enacted, that money shall be made, and exchange ordered, when the king shall please; viz. one piece of the value of six shillings, being the weight of two small florins of Flanders, a second of half that value and weight, and a third of the quarter of the first. By another proclamation this year, Edward signifies his having coined other gold pieces, viz. one of 6s. 8d. value, which he names a *gold noble*; others of half that value, to be called *maille noble*; and a third piece to be a quarter of the first, or 1s. 8d. value, and to be called a *ferling* (i. e. farthing) *noble*. He also

also by proclamation directs, that none of his subjects shall pay or receive any other but English gold and silver coins; nor shall they refuse the taking in any payment, of upwards five shillings value, either the latter or the first named gold coins; hereby directing all persons to his offices of exchange alone, for exchanging of gold coins for silver ones, viz. silver pennies, hitherto the largest silver coin of England; *one penny* to be paid to the king at the said office for exchanging every *noble* for the like value in silver coin, and so in proportion for the small ones. Taking thus one eighth part of the value of all gold coins exchanged for silver ones, although he, at the same time, obliges all his people to take the gold ones at their nominal value in their payments. These coins were reduced the same year to the value of 6s. 3d. and 1s. 6d. the weight and worth of their real value in bullion; a proof that they had at first been over-rated.

First TOLL for mending ROADS in ENGLAND.

A. D. 1346. Edward grants a commission to the master of the hospital of St. Gyles (in the Fields), without the city of London, and to John of Holbourn, "to lay a toll on all sorts of carriage, for
" two

192 ROYAL CHARACTERS.

“two years to come, passing through the high-
 “way leading from the said hospital to the
 “bar of the old Temple of London, that is,
 “to Holbourn bar, near to which stood the said
 “old Temple, and where behind stood a pri-
 “vate house very lately, the shell of an old
 “stone building, chapel, or refectory, once
 “probably belonging to the Templars. Also
 “through another highway called Portpool
 “(now Gray’s Inn Lane), joining to the before
 “named highway; which roads were, by the
 “frequent passage of carts, wains, and horses
 “to and from London, become so miry and
 “deep, as to be almost impassable; as also the
 “highway called Charing, probably now what
 “is called St. Martin’s lane.”

The TOLLS were as follow, viz.

For every cart or wayne laden with
 wool, leather, wine, honey, wax, oil,
 pitch, tar, fish, iron, brass, copper,
 lead, (tin or other metals), corn, for
 sale, to the value of 20s. ——— o o 1

For every horse-load of merchandize o o o $\frac{1}{4}$

For every horse used in carrying
 corn, or other provisions or goods,
 shall be paid weekly — — o o o $\frac{1}{2}$

Every

For every load of hay	—	—	0	0	0½
For carts used to carry charcoal, bark, &c. weekly	—	—	0	0	1
For every horse, cow, or ox, passing those roads	—	—	0	0	0½
For every score of sheep and hogs			0	0	0¼
And for all other merchandize of 5s. value	—	—	—	0	0 0½

But ecclesiastical persons of both sexes were to be exempted from the toll.

A. D. 1347.

A dreadful calamity. A base advantage taken thereof; as dreadfully punished.

A terrible pestilence raged this year in London, so that fifty thousand persons were buried in one year, in a place called Pardon Church-yard, without Smithfield bars, purchased and set apart for that purpose, to prevent infection from burying in church-yards. This dreadful calamity spread into Wales and Ireland, and raged chiefly among the common people, and of these the old men, women, and children. When the contagion among the human species abated, the cattle perished in vast numbers ; and no bird or beast of prey would touch their carcases, which lay
K
putrifying

putrifying upon the surface of the ground. The harvest was lost for want of hands to gather it, and hence followed a sore dearth of labour and provision. The Scots, tempted by the hope of an easy prey, in such a season of calamity and desolation, invaded the northern counties; and, together with a large booty, carried back the contagion (to their own country), where it made a terrible havoc. This malady first discovered itself in the north of Asia, spread over all that country, made a progress through Europe, and sensibly depopulated every state through which it passed.

ORDER OF THE GARTER INSTITUTED.

Edward, that he might further promote the spirit of emulation and obedience, instituted the order of the Garter, in imitation of some others of the like nature, religious as well as military, which had been instituted in different countries in Europe. The number received into this order consisted of twenty four persons, besides the sovereign; and, as it has never been enlarged, this badge of distinction continues as honourable as at its first institution, and is still a valuable, though a cheap present, which the prince can confer on his subjects. A vulgar story prevails, that at a

court ball, Edward's mistress, supposed the countess of Salisbury, dropt her garter; and the king taking it up, observed some of the courtiers to smile, as if they thought that he had not obtained this favour merely by accident: upon which he called out, *Hon! soit qui mal y pense*, Evil be to him that evil thinks. This origin, though frivolous, is not unsuitable to the manners of the times; and the peculiar badge of the Garter, with the seemingly unmeaning terms of the motto, may seem to warrant it.

COIN.

A. D. 1351. Edward coined silver groats (called *grosses*) and half groats, so named because there was no *greater* before, and which were the largest silver coins for many years after.

STRAND.

A. D. 1353. All the highway or road between Temple-Bar and Westminster, now the fine street called the Strand, was not then built on, but was what may be called a mere country road, separating the city of London from the village of Westminster, having however many noblemens houses,

and gardens adjoining to it; which have since given names to streets there erected.

A. D. 1357. A royal prisoner conducted through the streets of London. Humble and courteous behaviour of the king and prince of Wales upon that occasion.

When the tidings of the victory at Poitiers first arrived in England, the king, instead of encouraging any demonstrations of joy, desired that the archbishop of Canterbury would appoint a whole week, to be spent in prayer and thanksgiving, that he and the nation might not be too much intoxicated by their success. Notwithstanding this instance of his moderation and self-denial, he now directed the lord-mayor to prepare pageants, processions, and triumphal arches, to honour the public entrance of his victorious son; who was met in Southwark by the mayor and aldermen in their formalities, with one thousand citizens on horseback. The king of France, the royal prisoner, rode through the streets of London in a magnificent habit, mounted on a fine white courser, and attended by the prince of Wales, on a little black horse with ordinary trappings. The inhabitants vied with each other, in displaying plate, tapestry, furniture and arms offensive and defen-

five, in their shops, windows, and balconies. The streets were lined with an infinite concourse of people; and the cavalcade lasted from three in the morning till noon, when they reached Westminster-hall, where the king sat upon a royal throne, in expectation of their coming. He rose up when John approached, and received him with all the courteous civility which might have been expected from a prince of his character. Then he embraced his son with great tenderness, and told him, the victory did not please him so much as the modesty with which he bore his good fortune. As for the captive king, he was entertained in the most sumptuous manner, and provided with an apartment in the king's palace, until the Savoy could be fitted up for his reception.—What must have been the extreme feelings of the captive king?

Peace obtained by France, from an extraordinary visitation from heaven.

The chancellor of France, with three other commissioners, went to propose a treaty; and they overtaking Edward near Guillordon in Beauce, he appointed plenipotentiaries to treat with them on the subject of their embassy; though he did not

interrupt his march till arrived in Bretagne. The mind of Edward is said to have been disposed to peace, by a dreadful storm that looked like a judgment from heaven. When he had advanced within two leagues of Chartres, a hurricane began to blow with incredible violence; and a shower of hailstones descended, of such a prodigious size, that six thousand horses, and one thousand men, were struck down instantaneously, while the cope of heaven seemed to be horribly rent with peals of thunder. The king, affrighted at this tremendous scene, threw himself from his horse upon the ground; and stretching out his hands towards the church of Chartres, solemnly vowed to God, that he would no longer reject the offers of peace, if it might be obtained on reasonable conditions—this happened in 1360.

A regulation in law processes.

A. D. 1362. It was enacted by statute, that all pleadings in courts of judicature should henceforth be in the English tongue, and to be enrolled in Latin; because that mischiefs had happened to divers from the use of the French language, being unknown to the commonality, having no knowledge of what was said for or against them
by

by their pleaders.—Mr. Selden observes, that even the rudiments of grammar were then taught to boys in French, and not in English, till this regulation.

At this time, increasing wealth had introduced luxury amongst all ranks of people in England, which occasioned no fewer than eight sumptuary laws in one session of parliament.

In Cap. VIII. It was enacted, that men servants of lords, as also of tradesmen and artizans, shall be content with one meal of fish or flesh every day; and the other meals, daily, shall be of milk, cheese, butter, and the like. Neither shall they use any ornaments of gold, silk, or embroidery; nor their wives and daughters any veils above the price of twelvecence.

Cap. IX. Artizans and yeomen shall not wear cloth above 40s. the whole piece (the finest then being about 6l. per piece) nor the ornaments before named. Nor the women any veils of silk, but only those of thread made in England.

Cap. X. Gentlemen under the degree of knights, not having 100*l.* yearly in land, shall not wear any cloth above 4½ marks the whole piece. Neither shall they or their females use cloth of gold, silver, or embroidery, &c. But esquires having 200*l.* per annum or upwards of

rent, may wear cloths of five marks the whole piece or cloth; and they and their females may also wear stuff of silk, silver, ribbons, girdles, or furs.

Cap. XI. Merchants, citizens, burghers, and artificers of tradesmen, as well of London as elsewhere, who have goods and chattels of the clear value of 500*£*. and their females, may wear as is allowed to gentlemen and esquires of 100*£*. per annum. And merchants, citizens, and burghers, worth above 1000*£*. in goods and chattels, may (and their females) wear the same as gentlemen of 200*£*. per annum.

Cap. XII. Knights of 200 marks yearly may wear cloth of six marks the cloth, but no higher; but no cloth of gold, nor furred with ermine: but all knights and ladies having above 400 marks yearly, up to 1000*£*. per annum, may wear as they please, ermine excepted; and they may wear ornaments of pearl and precious stones for their heads only.

Cap. XIII. Clerks having degrees in cathedral, colleges, &c. may wear as knights and esquires of the same income.

Cap. XIV. Plowmen, carters, shepherds, and such like, not having 40*s*. value in goods or chattels,

tels, shall wear no sort of cloth but blanket and russet lawn of 12d. and shall wear girdles and belts; and they shall only eat and drink suitable to their stations. And whosoever uses other apparel than is prescribed by the above laws, shall forfeit the same.

Cap. XV. Clothiers shall make suitable quantities of all the before-named prices; and mercers and shopkeepers, in towns and cities, shall keep due assortments thereof; that so these laws may be duly observed..

REMARKS.

By the last chapter we may observe that the woollen manufactory had made considerable progress, since there was plenty of woollen cloth of various prices and fineness made in England, inso-much that they were enabled to serve other countries. But, although luxury will of necessity increase, according to the influx of wealth, it may not be for the general benefit of commerce, to impose, as in the above cited laws, an absolute prohibition of every degree of it: yet, for the good of the public, it may be necessary that such as go beyond proper bounds, in eating, drinking, and wearing what by no means is suitable to their station,

tion, should be taxed accordingly, could it be done without including those who have a better title to such indulgence. This is certainly, however, a point which should be maturely weighed, before executed; and, in mercantile countries at least, such restraints may be found prejudicial, most likely impracticable, especially where true liberty is established.

Sir William Temple observes, speaking of the trade and riches, and at the same time of the *frugality* of the Hollanders, "That some of our
 "maxims are not so *certain*, as *current* in politics :
 "as that encouragement of excess and luxury, if
 "employed in the consumption of *native* commodities is of advantage to trade. It may be so
 "to that which impoverishes, but not to that
 "which enriches a country. It is indeed less prejudicial, if it lies in *native*, than in *foreign* wares ;
 "but the humour of *luxury* and *expence* cannot
 "stop at certain bounds ; what begins in *native*,
 "will proceed in *foreign* commodities ; and though
 "the example arise among idle persons, yet the
 "imitation will run into all degrees, even of
 "those men by whose industry the nation subsists. And besides, the more of *our own* we
 "spend, the less we shall have to send abroad ;
 "and so it will come to pass, that while we drive
 "a vast

“a vast trade, yet, by buying much more than
“we *sell*, we shall come to be poor at last.”

Great alterations in counties, from the growth of trade and increase of commerce, instanced in Lancashire.

A. D. 1366. The sheriff of Lancashire, after returning two knights for the shire, adds, “there are not any cities or burghs, “within this county, from which any citizens or burgesses can, or were wont to “come, by reason of their inability, low condition, or poverty.” Neither do we find any returns for any towns in Lancashire, from this time down to king Edward IV’s reign. The towns of Lancaster and Preston had been represented sundry times before, in the reigns of king Edward I. II. and III. But were now found so poor, that they could not find two substantial and discreet persons to represent them. For boroughs were in those days always represented by some of their own proper townsmen, and not, as is frequent now, by strangers; neither could they pay the wages of such, if they could have been found.

What

What a mighty difference has the industry and ingenuity of man produced in this county; in the space of four hundred years, by the art of navigation improved and extended; the lands better cultivated; introduction of trade, and establishment of manufactories, the art of which is improved so as to rival, in some particulars *excel*, every nation on earth. So that Liverpool, at this time, is reckoned the third commercial town in the kingdom; by the number and excellence of her mercantile ships, commodious docks, harbour, &c. After the intended improvements are completed, an act for which has this year (1786) passed the house; Liverpool will, without doubt, be the second and the most commodious town in the kingdom; and Manchester, one of the most considerable towns; from its many excellent manufactories, and the great ingenuity displayed of late in the execution of the several branches of the cotton manufactory; so as even to vie with the produce of Asia in that branch; heretofore thought impracticable. Lancaster and Preston are both become considerable towns, the former of which sends out a great many ships; has some excellent buildings, from a beautiful white stone got in that neighbourhood; and is at this time building a bridge,

a bridge, which for size and neatness will have few equals in the kingdom. The inhabitants of this county, by their ingenuity and industry, have contributed not a little to the wealth of the nation. And though the land, in its natural state, is not rich; yet, animated by a spirit for improvement, many commons have been inclosed and cultivated; many barren tracts have been fertilized; and, besides the covering which nature yields, many hundred acres are again covered with the labour of the loom—rich callicoës.

This is the true PHILOSOPHER'S STONE, so much sought after in former ages, the discovery of which has been reserved to Genius, when studying to improve the mechanic arts. Hence a pound of raw materials is converted into stuffs of fifty times its original value. And the metals too are not, indeed, transmuted into gold—they are more:—for the labour of man has been able to work the baser metal, by the ingenuity of art, so as to become worth more than many times its weight in gold.

Method

Method of raising money by the kings at this period.

When money was wanted; it was usual, to direct the sheriffs of the several counties, who were also the collectors of the crown revenue, to make proclamation through their respective counties, that all who held lands of the crown, of the yearly value of 40*l*. should come and receive the order of knighthood. Whereupon the sheriffs transmitted to court lists of the names of all qualified. The end was answered, whether the landholders accepted or refused to be knighted; for in the former case, there was money coming to the king for conferring that honour; and in the latter, a mulct was to be paid if they refused.

Jeffrey Chaucer, the celebrated poet, a favourite.

A. D. 1374.

Edward grants to Chaucer, his beloved squire, one pitcher of wine, to be daily delivered to him by the king's butler, during his life, at the port of London; and the same year grants him the office of comptroller of the customs, and of the subsidy of wool and leather, in the port of London,

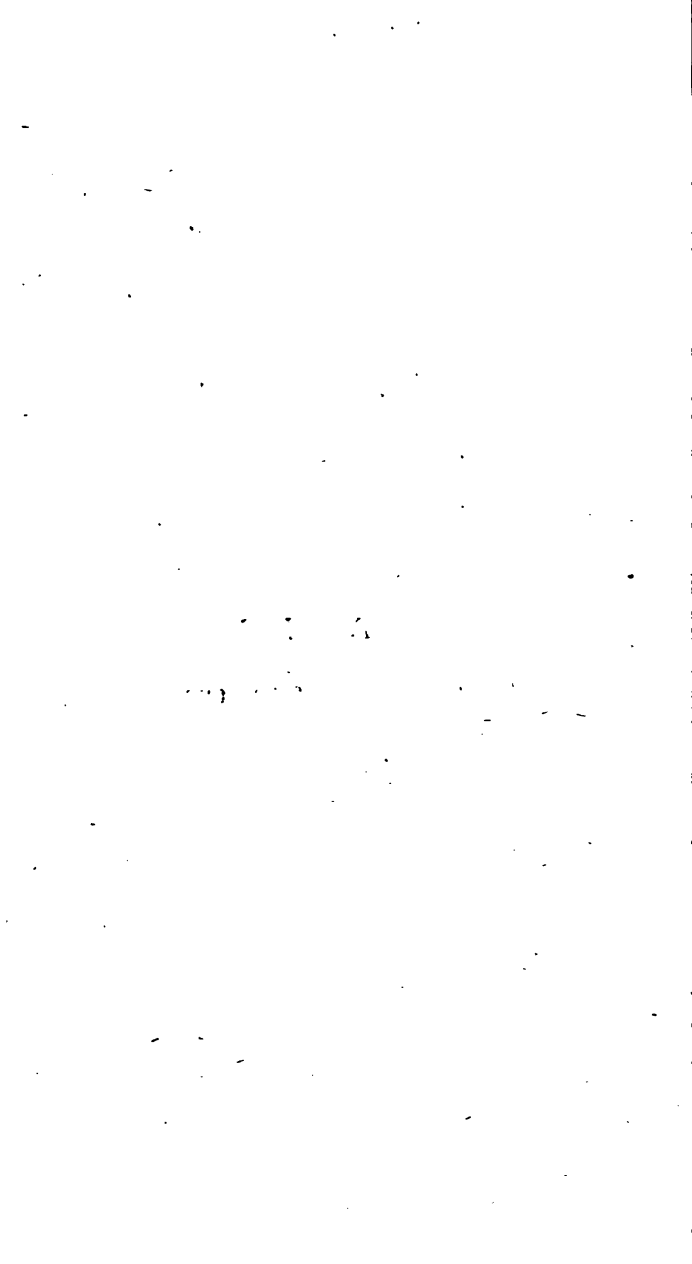
London, on this express condition, that he shall write with his own hand the entries belonging to his said office of comptroller, and shall constantly act in person, not by *deputy*, in his said office. And Richard II. in the year 1398, grants to our said poet one ton of wine yearly during his life (it should seem the poets loved wine in these days); and a yearly pension of 20*£*. both of which were confirmed to him by Henry IV. At the same time flourished Gower a poet; the friend and companion of Chaucer. These two are generally esteemed the first reformers of the English language.

END OF VOL. I.



CHARACTERS
OF THE
KINGS AND QUEENS
OF
ENGLAND,
Selected from different HISTORIES.

VOL. II.



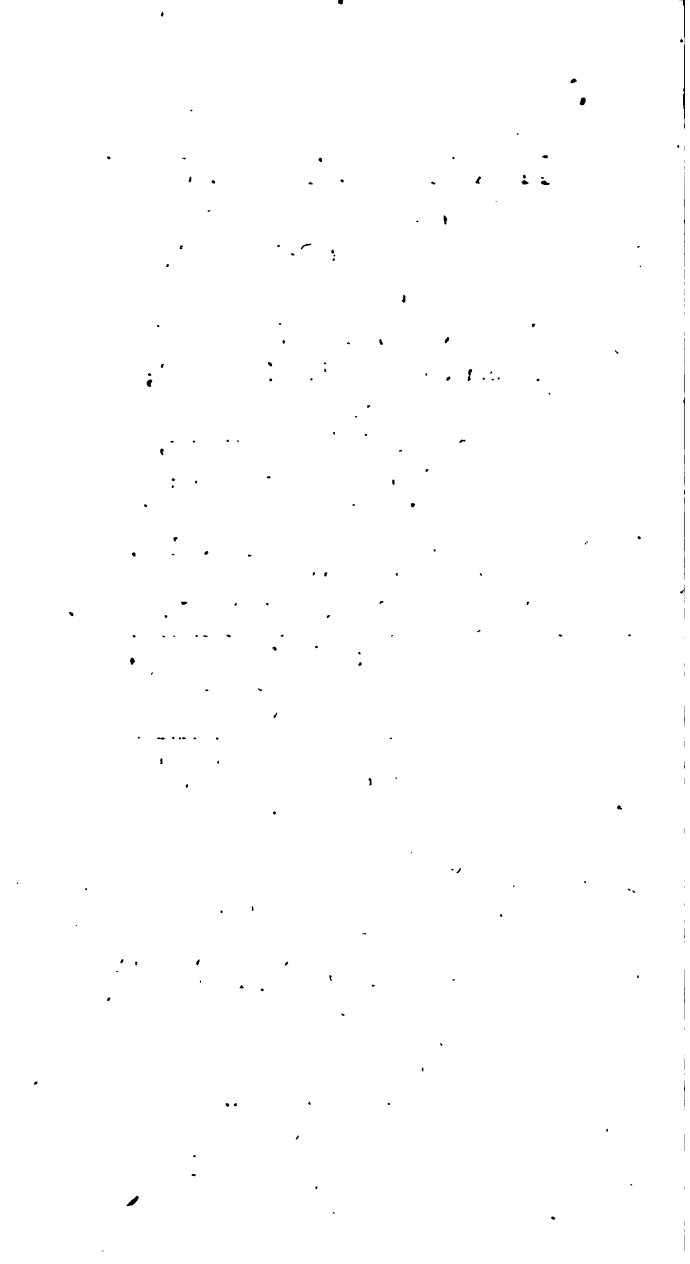
CHARACTERS
OF THE
KINGS AND QUEENS
OF
ENGLAND,
Selected from different HISTORIES;
WITH
OBSERVATIONS and REFLECTIONS,
Chiefly adapted to COMMON LIFE;
And particularly intended for
The INSTRUCTION of YOUTH.
To which are added
NOTES HISTORICAL.

By **J. HOLT.**

THE SECOND VOLUME.

“ Those parallel circumstances, and kindred images, to which we readily conform our minds, are, above all other writings, to be found in narratives of the lives of particular persons: and therefore no species of writing seems more worthy of cultivation than biography; since none can be more delightful or more useful, none can more certainly enchain by irresistible interest, or more widely diffuse instruction to every diversity of condition; since there is scarce any possibility of good or evil, but what is common to every individual.” **RAMBLER.**

L O N D O N,
Printed for G. G. J. and J. ROBINSON,
Pater-noster-row. MDCCLXXXVII.



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ROYAL CHARACTERS.

RICHARD II.

CHARACTER OF RICHARD II.

ALL the writers who have transmitted to us the history of Richard, composed their works during the reign of the Lancastrian princes; and candour requires that we should not give entire credit to the reproaches which have been thrown upon his memory. But after making all proper abatements, he still appears to have been a weak prince, and unfit for government; less for want of natural parts and capacity, than of solid judgment.

VOL. II.

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and

and good education. He was violent in his temper, profuse in his expences, fond of idle show and magnificence, devoted to favourites and addicted to pleasure; passions, all of them, the most inconsistent with a prudent œconomy, and consequently dangerous in a limited and mixed government. Had he possessed the talents of gaining, and, still more, of overawing his great barons, he might have escaped all the misfortunes of his reign, and been allowed to carry much further his oppressions over his people, if he really was guilty of any, without their daring to rebel, or even murmur, against him. But when the grandees were tempted, by his want of prudence and rigour, to resist his authority, and execute the most violent enterprizes upon him, he was naturally led to seek for an opportunity of retaliation; justice was neglected; the lives
of

of the chief nobility sacrificed ; and all these evils seem to have proceeded more from a settled design of establishing arbitrary power, than from the insolence of victory, and the necessities of the king's situation. The manners, indeed, of the age, were the chief sources of such violence ; laws, which were feebly executed in peaceable times, lost all their authority in public convulsions. Both parties were alike guilty ; or, if any difference may be remarked between them, we shall find the authority of the crown, being more legal, was commonly carried, when it prevailed to less desperate extremities than those of aristocracy *.

HUME.

* He was starved to death in prison, or murdered, after having been dethroned, A. D. 1399, in the year of his age 34 ; of his reign 23.

ANOTHER CHARACTER OF RICHARD II.

SUCH was the last conclusion of Richard II. a weak, vain, frivolous, inconstant prince; without weight to balance the scales of government, without discernment to choose a good ministry; without virtue to oppose the measures, or advice, of evil counsellors, even where they happened to clash with his own principles and opinion. He was a dupe to flattery, a slave to ostentation, and not more apt to give up his reason to the suggestion of sycophants, and vicious ministers, than to sacrifice those ministers to his safety. He was idle, profuse, and profligate; and, though brave by starts, naturally pusillanimous, and irresolute. His pride and resentment, prompted him to cruelty and
breach

breach of faith; while his necessities obliged him to fleece his people, and degrade the dignity of his character and situation; though we find none of his charities on record, all his historians agree, that he excelled all his predecessors in state hospitality, and fed a thousand every day from his kitchen.

SMOLLETT.

ANOTHER CHARACTER OF RICHARD II.

RICHARD of Bourdeaux (so called from the place of his birth) was remarkably beautiful, and handsome in his person; and doth not seem to be naturally defective, either in courage or understanding. For on some occasions, particularly in the dangerous insurrections of the crown, he acted with a degree of

B 3

spirit

spirit and prudence superior to his years. But his education was miserably neglected; or, rather, he was intentionally corrupted and debauched by three ambitious uncles, who, being desirous of retaining the management of his affairs, encouraged him to spend his time in the company of dissolute young people of both sexes, in a continual course of feasting and dissipation. By this means, he contracted a taste for pomp and pleasure, and a dislike to business. The greatest foible in the character of this unhappy prince was an excessive fondness for, and unbounded liberality to his favourites, which enraged his uncles, particularly the duke of Gloucester, and disgusted such of the nobility as did not partake of his bounty. He was an affectionate husband, a generous master, and a faithful friend; and if he had received a proper

per education, might have proved a
great and good king. HENRY

OBSERVATIONS ON THE CHARACTER OF RICHARD II.

SUCH a character as is here given of Richard II. can afford little improvement to the mind, or satisfaction to the heart; but if we look back to the circumstances in which this prince was placed, on the death of his grandfather the great Edward III. some interesting reflections will arise in our minds. And we may remark, how unfortunate, with respect to themselves and their connexions, is the situation of those who are born to great heritages, or to preside over the lives and properties of others, before good principles are infused by

instruction, and confirmed by practice; before their faculties are matured by the experience of age—"Woe to the land (says the son of Sirach) when the king is a child!"

Richard II. had only attained the eleventh year of his age at the demise of his grandfather Edward III. and though he could not immediately ascend the throne, on account of his minority; yet in consequence of high expectations, his young mind was easily intoxicated; being without a sage mentor, or tender parent, to correct or soothe the fallies of youthful ardour; and being surrounded by fawning sycophants, who encouraged evil propensities, to promote some selfish purposes. No wonder that he became a weak prince and unfit for government; yet allowances ought to be made for the blemishes we discover in this character,
and

and the faults he was guilty of, when he took upon himself the reins of government : for it is said, “ His faults
“ were less for want of natural parts and
“ capacity, than of solid judgment, and
“ good education.”

Happy for you, *my young friends*, who are blessed with parents, who will check the sallies of youthful folly, and restrain your wandering steps. Whilst they are continued to you, listen to their councils, and practise the virtuous precepts dictated by parental affection ; which if pursued will secure you from many dangers ; and, if anything can, bid fairest to conduct you into those paths where tranquillity and happiness may be found.

To inculcate these precepts, and promote your education more effectually, your parents are induced to place you in seminaries of instruction, where les-

sons, on different subjects, suited to your ages, and adapted to your future destination in life, are regularly taught. It is a *truth*, that however great your abilities may be in other respects, if the art of SELF GOVERNMENT be not obtained, your other talents will never shine "as lights upon a hill;" but will be hid, "as under a bushel." For whatever your future destination in life may be, you must yet become members of society. And to act your part well, not only requires timely instruction, but early and well-timed discipline. Nor can this be acquired by precept, but (of all others) must be learned from actual experience. In these communities, the young people assembled, are of different humours and dispositions; and that you may accommodate yourselves the better, and live in peace and harmony, you

you are obliged to subdue a number of puerile propensities, and thereby prepare yourselves, when the season shall arrive, for acting your part with becoming dignity, upon the Great Theatre of Life *. A school is an epitome of the world on a less scale, and is better suited to infant capacities : If any error be committed here, your preceptors are at hand to point out the extent of the fault,

* A child will learn more true wisdom in a school in a year, than by private education in five. It is not from masters, but from their equals, youth learn a knowledge of the world; the little tricks they play each other; the punishment that frequently attends the commission; is a just picture of the great world; and all the ways of men are practised in a public school in miniature. It is true, a child is early made acquainted with some vice in a school; but it is better to know these things when a child, than be first taught them when a man; for then they may have irresistible charms.

GOLDSMITH.

suggest excuses for your present misconduct, restore you to the good opinion of the injured party ; and, by seasonable admonitions, warn you of your danger, and direct you to more circumspect behaviour in future. Thus you will be gradually prepared for becoming useful and respectable in your stations : and the precepts you have learnt will be practised, not as a task of duty ; or to please those to whom you are subordinate ; but as rules to direct your future conduct in life, and procure the enjoyment of present and future felicity.

To further and promote your own education more effectually, you, who are more advanced in learning, and of a superior age, might find it beneficial to yourselves, as well as tending to the good discipline of the school, to undertake the guardianship of those who are younger. Such civilities will endear
you

you to them : and whilst you take the liberty of restraining their little sallies, which you should correct by shewing the example, the admonitions given, and the good conduct manifested, by yourself, will have a reciprocal effect ; so that whilst you are superintending your young pupils, you are improving yourselves. Those who, like the character under consideration, are orphans, who have, unfortunately for themselves, lost their parents, (as there are, alas ! too many in that situation) have a particular claim upon your indulgence to the frailties of which they may be guilty. They have no lenient *balms* to sooth their little troubles, but what proceed through the medium of guardians, or distant relations ; who, however kind they may be, yet they cannot *give* what they have not to *bestow*, the fostering care of parental affection. Richard II. was an orphan ;

orphan; and this helpless state is pathetically represented by his historian Henry in these words : “ But his
 “ education was miserably neglected,
 “ or rather he was intentionally corrupted and debauched by three ambitious uncles, who, being desirous of
 “ retaining the management of his affairs,
 “ encouraged him to spend his time in
 “ the company of dissolute young people
 “ of both sexes, in a continual course of
 “ feasting and dissipation.”

Such ill customs, we know, once admitted, are with difficulty subdued, and it must cost the person much pains who endeavours to get the better of them; and many a severe pang will be felt before the work can be accomplished. It is the utmost injustice, nay cruelty, in those who have the guardianship of youth, to neglect accustoming their wards betimes to love, revere, and
 I practise

practise those things, which it will become them to follow in riper years. A proper education, not only improves our good qualities, but enables us to repel the dictates of those evil ones which our passions are apt to inspire in us.

“ And it ought steadily to be inculcated, that virtue is the highest proof of the understanding, and the only solid basis of greatness; and that vice is the natural consequence of narrow thoughts; that it begins in mistake, and ends in ignominy.”

Whether we study the useful, or pleasing, the first acquisition we should strive to attain is a knowledge of right and wrong; the next, an acquaintance with the history of mankind, and with those examples which may be said to “embody truth,” and prove, by events, the reasonableness of opinions. Prudence and justice are virtues of all times, and of every

every place. "The mind, by early labour, becomes accustomed to fatigue and subordination; and whatever be the young person's future employment in life, he whose mind has been principled by virtue, and whose understanding is enlarged by education, will by these means be enabled to support the labours of life with content, or to fill up the intervals of leisure with variety. "The exterior should be made a considerable object of attention, but not the *only* one. The heart, the natural seat of propensities, is led to what is right by slow motions and imperceptible degrees. "It must be admonished by reproof, and allured by kindness." Even the passions themselves, which are given us for wise ends, by a proper education, and good management, may be made subservient to some good: for there are few which may not be converted into virtues,

virtues, if prudently rectified, and skilfully directed; which proves what precautions are necessary, not to extinguish those fires which, under due regulation, may prove so beneficial; but if suffered to blaze out, bring nothing but destruction. “If Richard had received a good education, he might have proved a great and good king.”

NOTES HISTORICAL.

A. D. 1378. John duke of Bratagne had put his castle of Brest into the hands of Richard II. until peace should be settled with France; and, in consideration thereof, that duke was to be put in possession of a convenient castle in England, with a yearly land-rent of 700 marks. Whereupon, this year, Richard sent to Brest great quantities of bows and arrows, cross bows, iron, steel, nails, boards, *saltpetre*, *salpbur*, and *charcoal*, (the three last probably for making of gunpowder) saws.

apart, to moderate this demand. The lords gave their opinion of four groats per head, by way of poll-tax, on all but beggars. After much debate, the Commons proposed 100,000*l.* provided the clergy, who were possessed of one third part of the lands, would raise 50,000 marks in part thereof; and the laity would pay the other two thirds, or 100,000 marks. But the clergy refused to be taxed, but, as was customary, by their own convocation. Therefore the lords and commons agreed on three groats per head, males and females of the age of fifteen years, and upwards; the sufficient people of towns to contribute to the assistance of the insufficient; so that none should be bound to pay more than sixty groats for himself and his family. The indecent manner of collecting this tax, in some places, occasioned the well-known rebellion of Jack Straw and Wat Tyler; which arose to such a pitch, that the principal citizens of London, greatly alarmed, headed by Walworth, the lord-mayor, and seconded by the gallant Philpot, armed themselves in defence of their sovereign.

“ A message being sent to Tyler, offering him
 “ and his people the same charters which had sa-
 “ tisfied the men of Essex; this savage plebeian
 “ being

“ being flushed with blood, and intoxicated with
“ his power and success, had formed the design
“ of murdering the king and all his nobles, and
“ erecting a despotism on the ruins of the con-
“ stitution : he, therefore, made no other re-
“ ply to the king’s messenger, but that he would
“ consent to a peace, provided he liked the
“ terms ; and three successive charters were
“ sent him, and rejected, in the compass of a
“ few hours. At length, Richard riding towards
“ Smithfield, invited him to a conference, that
“ he might know and remove his objections :
“ when he began to move towards that place
“ with his followers, but so slowly, that Sir
“ John Newton, who delivered the message,
“ told him, the king was waiting for him, and
“ desired he would mend his pace : but this
“ proud and new-created tyrant took umbrage
“ at this freedom, and replied, he would move
“ as he himself should think proper. When he
“ approached the king, he did not offer to alight ;
“ and Sir John Newton blaming the inde-
“ cency of his behaviour ; Tyler drew his dag-
“ ger to stab him. Newton drew his weapon
“ in his own defence, the king interposing.
“ Tyler, notwithstanding all his insolence and
“ bru-

82 ROYAL CHARACTERS.

“ brutality, seemed disconcerted by the presence
“ of his sovereign. Yet, in all probability, his
“ intention was to have plunged the dagger into
“ Richard's heart: he eyed the prince with a
“ gloomy aspect; his hands began to shake;
“ and his countenance denoted distraction.
“ His demands were so extravagant, and made
“ in such unconnected phrase, that Richard
“ neither understood his meaning, nor would he
“ give his assent to the proposals. The intentions
“ of both, were to amuse each other: for Tyler
“ expected a reinforcement next day from Herefordshire; and the King knew that Sir Robert Knolles was on his march, at the head
“ of a thousand veterans, coming to his assistance:
“ nevertheless, this plebeian could not brook a
“ refusal; and thinking, perhaps, this was the
“ proper opportunity to strike the blow he
“ had meditated, he lifted up his dagger, as if
“ he intended to plunge it into the breast of his
“ sovereign; when Walworth, perceiving his
“ drift, rode up, and stunned him with a blow
“ of his mace: Philpot finished his fate, by
“ thrusting his sword through the ruffian's body,
“ so that he fell dead from his horse. His followers, seeing him drop, exclaimed, ‘ Our
“ captain

"captain is slain; let us revenge his death;" and
 "bent their bows for that purpose: but the king,
 "though not quite fifteen years of age, rode
 "up to them with admirable courage and pre-
 "sence of mind, saying, 'What would you have, my
 "lieges? Give yourselves no concern about the
 "death of that traitor. I am your captain; fol-
 "low me, and I will grant you all your reason-
 "able desires.' They were so confounded at the
 "death of their leader, and the magnanimity of
 "their prince, that they durst not venture to
 "let fly their arrows; but followed him as it
 "were mechanically into the fields of Islington.
 "Before they could recollect themselves, Sir
 "Robert Knolles appeared with his band of ve-
 "terans, and some thousands of Londoners, who
 "took to their arms under Walworth, imme-
 "diately after the death of Tyler. The fight
 "of these troops completed the dejection of the
 "insurgents; and the King offering them a ge-
 "neral pardon, and the same kind of charter
 "he had already granted to their companions,
 "they fell down on their knees, and sub-
 "mitted."

Chiefly Smollett's Account abridged.

22. ROYAL CHARACTERS.

Stowe's Account of Walworth.

The Fishmongers, men ignorant of their antiquities, are not able to say aught of Sir William Walworth (the glory of their company) more than that he slew *Jack Straw*, which is a mere fable; for the said Jack Straw was, after the overthrow of the rebels, taken, and, by the judgment of the mayor, beheaded; whose confession, at the gallows, is extant in my Annals; where also is set down the most valiant and praise-worthy actions of Sir William Walworth, against the principal rebel *Wat Tyler*; as, in reproof of Walworth's monument in St. Michael's church, I have wished to be reformed there, as in other places.

The dagger, in the city seal, vulgarly supposed the dagger of William Walworth, added to the arms of the city for this valorous act, being the *sword* of Paul, which, with the figures of Peter Paul and the Virgin Mary, constitute their arms, and which opinion probably arose from a new seal being struck in Walworth's Mayoralty 1380, the old one being small, unapt and uncomely, for the honour of the city. Survey of London.

N. B. Thus Historians disagree in their opinions.

A. D. 1382. An Inventory of a quantity of goods, sent from the port of Bristol, free of custom, to the pope. It may be reckoned curious, as it shews the progress of the English manufactures at this time, and likewise the fashions and usages of the age; namely,

Six pieces of green tapestry, powdered with roses. One great curtain of serge. Five pair of sheets, and two blankets. Six pieces of blue bed curtains. One great cultrix for a bed, and six curtains for a chamber. Two great pieces of red serge for adorning a hall, worked with the arms of the pope, the king, and the church. Two great bancals (cushions) for the said hall, and a piece of red serge. One piece of red and black cloth, for tapestry. Five mantles of Irish cloth, one lined with green. Another mantle of mixed cloth, lined with green. One russet garment lined with Irish cloth. One green cloth, for telling money upon. Three beds with testers. A striped blue cloth, for a valet. One piece of blue cloth of fifty ells. Sixty ells of mixed colours, and six ells of blanket. One mantle of mixed colours, lined with beaver, with hood and cape lined. One blue mantle and surpeticun, lined with grey. Another garment lined with calabric (N. N.) with a coat and hood

lined with a blanket. Another garment without sleeves, lined with beaver, and another with lamb skin. One beaver fur, for a furtout. One capellum, and one pair of gloves lined with grey. One pair of beaver gloves. One mixed-coloured coat, with a blanket. Two round mantles, the one mixed, the other black; and another lined with green. Four strait coats of blanket. One intire robe lined with syndoné (N. N.) One violet hood lined with scarlet. One piece of blue, of ten ells, with jewels, and other sorts of linen cloth. One tabordum (N. N.) with supertunic and hood lined with syndoné. One sanguine-coloured hood, lined with black. One scarlet double hood, and one of sanguine colour. Thirty books, great and small: also certain alabaster images of the holy Trinity,—of the virgin Mary,—of St. Peter and St. Paul: also many pewter vessels, brasse candlesticks, basons, and lavatories; also woollen gloves, stockings; and also knives.

The town of Colchester gets excused for five years to come, from sending any burgesses to Parliament, the better to enable them to build
 awall

a wall of stone and lime round their town, for their defence, against any enemies who may hereafter attempt them. Richard this year redeems his crown; which, in his necessity, he had pawned, together with a gold-hilted sword, and some gold trinkets and precious stones, for 2,000*l.* to the city of London.

A. D. 1386. Extracts from Lord NEVELL'S
last Will.

To his son Ralph; two of his best silk beds, six dozen of silver dishes, four dozen of salts, eight pots, four flagons, four dozen of spoons, eight charges, six basons, one gold cup, and five silver-gilt cups.

To his son Thomas; twenty-four silver dishes, twelve faucers, two basons, two ewers, one gold cup and cover, one silk bed.

To his brother William; twelve silver dishes.

To his sister; a gold cup and cover, and two pair of gold beads.

To a daughter; twelve dishes, six faucers, and two cups.

To another; a gold cup and silver-gilt one, twelve dishes, and twelve faucers.

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To another daughter; twelve dishes, six saucers, two cups, two pots, two basons, and two lavatories.

To another person; two basons and lavatories, one great cup and patten.

To another; one silver great cup and cover.

To another; two cups to the value of twenty-three marks.

To two more; each a gilt cup and cover, and to one of them a lavatory.

To his brother the Archbishop of York; a garment of red velvet, embroidered with roses.

To two other persons; each two basons, two ewers, and one gilt cup.

To another; twenty marks and a gilt cup.

To two others; each a silver vessel and cover.

Among his servants, he ordered 500 marks to be distributed.

After directing 1000 marks for marrying his daughter, besides sundry legacies of 20l. 30l. and 40l. he orders the chariot which conveys his corpse to be covered with russet escutcheons, &c. &c.

Madox.

Slavish

***Slavish State of the common People, Ser-
vants, &c.**

A. D. 1388. Wages of servants in husbandry were fixed by Parliament; namely, The bailiff of the farm; to have victuals, lodging, clothing once a year, and 13s. 4d. yearly. The master-hinder; meat, lodging, and 10s. yearly. Carter and shepherd; 10s. each a year. The oxherd, cowherd, and swineherd; each 6s. 8d. a year. A woman servant; 6s. a year. And it was enacted, that whoever serves in husbandry, till he is twelve years old shall so continue afterwards, and not to be put out apprentice to any other trade or art. And again, that no artificer, labourer, or servant, male or female, should depart from one hundred to another, without a testimonial under the King's seal, on pain of being set in the stocks, and be obliged to return to his respective hundred, &c. unless he be sent on business by his lord and master.

Playing Cards.

A. D. 1391. Playing cards are said to have been invented about this time in France, for the di-

version of King Charles VI. who had fallen into a melancholy disposition. This seemingly trifling invention has since become a considerable article in commerce and the duty upon them has brought in no small revenue to the state. Whatever that may be, their general introduction amongst all ranks and conditions can have no good influence, in their effects, upon the morals of the people. But yet it is wonderful, that in this age of refinement and general improvement, CARDS only should have remained, for such a length of time, in the same state they were originally invented; and, notwithstanding they are capable of so great variety, there has not been so much as one new game upon them introduced; nor have the arts of painting or engraving made the least alteration upon the Court, but uncouthly figures; which still have the address to exact attention and admiration from both the sexes.

Extracts from Richard II's Will.

His corpse to be clothed in velvet or satin, and
to be interred with a gilded crown and sceptre,
2 and

and on his finger a ring, with a precious stone of 20 marks value.

He bequeathes to every Catholic (*i. e.* Christian) King, a gold cup of 450*l.* value.

Six thousand marks to be set apart for his funeral (equal to 15,000 marks of our modern money) and equal to 20,000*l.* in comparison of the rates of living then, being about as five to one as cheap as at present) and 10,000 marks for rewarding such of his servants as are not yet provided for sufficiently.

To his nephew the Duke of Surrey, 10,000*l.* To the duke of Exeter, 3000 marks. To the earl of Wiltshire, 2000 marks. To his kinsman the duke of Albemarle, (blank) marks. These and some others he appoints his executors, to each of whom, as such, he bequeaths a gold cup of 20*l.* value.

For all which legacies, and for certain charities therein named, he had set apart 91,000 marks, which were lodged in certain hands therein named.

As for his gold diadem set with gems, and all the crown jewels, he leaves to his successor in the throne.

N. B. From the above extracts, it should appear, that Richard was not that "idle, profuse

“ and profligate Prince, and profuse in his expences,”—as given in the character of him; or how could he save and set apart such a sum as 91,000 marks, to discharge the legacies and charities, as above bequeathed?—“ Fond of show and magnificence,” may be granted; since,

When he made his will, he ordered, that if he should die abroad, perish by sea, or by any accident, so that his body might not be found, his effigy, with all the insignia of royalty, should be deposited in the same monument which he had caused to be erected to perpetuate the memory of his favourite queen.

Dart ascribes the honour of this interment, in the manner the will directs, to Henry V. who caused his remains (which had been embalmed by Henry IV. his successor; and, some say, his murderer, and lodged at Abbots Langley in Herefordshire,) to be brought from thence in royal pomp, and deposited with his favourite queen. But mark the consequence of mortal pride, displayed in all the splendour of royal pomp, and magnificence,—how, in a few years, all this becomes “ a vain shew;” for,

The

The tomb of Richard II. has been long stripped of all its emblems, and there remain now only the effigies of the King and Queen, on a table of brass; in which the holes are to be seen, where probably, the lions, leopards, and other ornaments were fixed. At the extremity of the brass table, projecting beyond the feet of the effigies, there appears an iron bolt, which, the guides say, formerly connected the eagles of the monument; and which, being of brass, has been carried away by pilferers, for the sake of the metal. The base of the monument, on which the brass table is placed, is so mouldered away and defaced, that nothing can now be distinguished, but the vestiges of niches, in which were placed the images of saints, after the manner of the times.

Gent. Mag. Nov. 1785.

HENRY IV.

CHARACTER OF HENRY IV.

The great popularity, which Henry enjoyed before he attained the crown, and which had so much aided him in the acquisition of it, was entirely lost, many years before the end of his reign, and he governed the people more by terror than affection, more by his own policy than their sense of duty and allegiance. When men came to reflect in cold blood on the crimes which led him to the throne; and the rebellion against his prince; the deposition of a lawful king, guilty sometimes of oppression, but more frequently of imprudences; the exclusion of the true heir; the murder of his sovereign and
near

near relation ; these were such enormities, as drew on him the hatred of his subjects, sanctified all the rebellions against him, and made the executions, though not remarkably severe, which he found necessary for the maintenance of his authority, appear cruel as well as iniquitous to his people. Yet, without pretending to apologize for these crimes, which must ever be held in detestation, it may be remarkable, that he was insensibly led into this blameable conduct, by a train of incidents, which few men possess virtue enough to withstand. The injustice with which his predecessor had treated him, in first condemning him to banishment, and then despoiling him of his patrimony, made him naturally think of revenge, and of recovering his lost rights ; the headstrong zeal of the people hurried him into the throne, the care of his own security, as well as his

C 6

ambition,

ambition, made him an usurper; and the steps have always been so few between the prisons of princes and their graves, that we need not wonder that Richard's fate was no exception to the general rule. All these considerations made the king's situation, if he retained any sense of virtue, very much to be lamented; and the inquietudes, with which he possessed his envied greatness, and the remorse by which, it is said, he was continually haunted, rendered him an object of our pity, even when seated upon the throne. But it must be owned, that his prudence, vigilance, and foresight, in maintaining his power, were admirable; his command of temper remarkable; his courage, both military and political, without blemish: and he possessed many qualities, which fitted him for his high station, and which rendered his usurpation of it, though per-

pernicious in after-times, rather salutary during his own reign, to the English nation, HUME.

Died 1413. Aged 43.

ANOTHER CHARACTER OF HENRY IV.

HENRY IV. was of a middle stature, well proportioned, and perfect in all the exercises of arms and chivalry : his countenance was severe, rather than serene, and his disposition, sour, sullen, and reserved ; he possessed a great share of courage, fortitude, and penetration ; was naturally imperious, though he bridled his temper with a great deal of caution ; superstitious, though without the least tincture of virtue and true religion ; and meanly parsimonious, though justly censured for want of œconomy, and ill-judged profusion. He was tame
from

from caution, humble from fear, cruel from policy, and rapacious from indigence. He rose to the throne by perfidy and treason; and established his authority in the blood of his subjects, and died a penitent for his sins, because he could no longer enjoy the fruit of his transgressions. SMOLLETT.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE CHARACTER OF HENRY IV.

The character of this prince affords us an example, how important this truth, that “the commission of one crime may be the introduction to many others.”—And hence we may learn, how necessary it is that young persons especially, should be constantly on their guard against the first deviation from the paths of virtue. Who
can,

can, with certainty, say, "so far will I
" go and no farther?"—"Henry was
" insensibly led into this blameable con-
" duct by a train of incidents, which
" few men possess virtue enough to
" withstand."

To enable those who are entering upon active life, to avoid being insensibly led into these errors, we will make some brief observations.

It is but seldom that men, in their common transactions, think at all; and, probably, fewer still deliberately think of the rectitude, or depravity, of what they are about. We are often impelled by passion or habit. "Henry was tame
" from caution, humble from fear,
" cruel from policy, and rapacious from
" indigence.—Whilst any one yields himself to be governed by these, or such like propensities, there is little use made of reflection; therefore, we cannot probably do better than accustom
our-

ourselves to an early habit of thoughtfulness.

And yet it is well known to every instructor of youth, how difficult it is to impress this habit on the mind. Emulation, or fear, most generally enforce the performance of a task : nay, the more advanced in life, the studious person, confesses how untoward this act of the mind frequently is ;—that, notwithstanding his utmost efforts, a resistance is still made, which he cannot conquer. Nevertheless, *MEMORY*, which is the power of recollecting things past, and which brutes possess in a certain degree ; and *THOUGHT*, which may be defined a *right* conception of things, may be greatly improved by dint of industry and early discipline.

And since this faculty of thought seems to be one great quality which raises human nature above the brutes ;
if

if we do not use this noble gift, for the purpose of distinguishing what is right from what is wrong, and practising according to such knowledge, we might as well have been without it. Nay, brutes have the advantage of those men who act the part of beasts, in neglecting or abusing this exalted gift of their Creator's benevolence, since they cannot be called to account, or punished as *unthinking men*, for prostituting what they do not possess. And yet mankind in general act, as if nothing more was necessary than to drown all thought, and then give themselves up, to be led or driven, as passion sways: hence what can be more impious, than to spurn this inestimable gift, or bury this talent, which was given for the important purpose of discerning good from evil;—and then to pretend, in excuse for all the madness they are guilty of, that they
did

did not *think*; in other words, because they would not take the pains to think.

For this purpose, it would be useful for every one to spend some time every day in the following reflections;—whether he indulges passion or appetite beyond the intention of nature; whether he only consults health, in eating, sleeping, and in recreations; whether he yields to anger, upon small or no provocations; whether he fulfils the duties of life according to the extent of his abilities. If any one should accustom himself to such self-examination, we may trust such discipline would not be misapplied. For we are not to suppose, that the great Author of our being regards one of his creatures more, for being a king, or another for being a hero: his unlimited comprehension extends impartially over all his works: nay, we are told, “he
“ knows

“ knows if a sparrow but fall ;” and
 “ that if more is *given*, more is re-
 “ *quired*.”

There is, perhaps, however, no one, whatever his rank or station may be, so hardened in the ways of wickedness, but who does not intend some time or other to review his conduct, and regulate the remainder of his life by the laws of virtue. But new temptations attach him, new invitations of pleasure or interest present themselves, and the hour of reformation is delayed till to-morrow ; and thus every delay gives vice another opportunity of fortifying itself by habit ; and the change of manners, though it may be sincerely intended, is postponed to the time, when some craving appetite shall be fully gratified, or some powerful allurements have lost its importunity ; and so the first imperceptible step in vice leads the sinner on—till he be-
 come

come at last, like Henry IV. "a pen-
 " nitent for sins, because he could no
 " longer enjoy the fruits of his trans-
 " gression."

To the above general remarks, we
 would recommend to our female friends,
 the practice of one virtue in particular;
 which is of so much importance to
 the sex, that no elixir which can be
 purchased tends so much to heighten
 their charms. Nor is its being an em-
 bellisher of female beauty its only qua-
 lity: it is that *radiant zone*, or *magic*
ceffus, which, as a shield, will incircle
 and protect them. Hear the testimony
 of the divine Milton, in his own words,
 —a conversation between two brothers,
 in search after a sister lost in the woods,
 urged by one by way of consolation to
 the other;

—'Tis CHASTITY, my brother, chastity:
 She that has that, is clad in complete steel;
 And, like a quivered nymph, with arrows keen,
 May trace huge forests, and unharbour'd heaths,
 Infamous hills, and sandy perilous wilds;
 Where, through the sacred rays of chastity,
 No savage, bandit, or mountaineer,
 Will dare to soil her virgin purity,
 Yea, there; where very desolation dwells,
 By grots, and caverns, shagg'd with horrid shade,
 She may pass on, with unblanch'd majesty
 —Be it not done in pride, or in presumption.
Masque of Cornus.

Hear also the confession of a professed libertine :

“ A chaste, a virtuous woman, is an
 “ awful character; something preter-
 “ natural seems to surround her, and
 “ shroud her from the profane approach
 “ of seduction.”—

“ Innocence may be seduced; but
 “ chastity founded on the firm basis of
 “ pure

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“ pure virtue, holds forth to the most
“ artful, as well as the most rampant
“ lust, the impulsive evidence of im-
“ pregnable security.”—

“ This is a language, you might not
“ expect from such an incorrigible sin-
“ ner as I am ; but, believe me, it is
“ that of all the tribe, when reason re-
“ sumes its lucid intervals. And if the
“ women of coquetry, vanity, and in-
“ trigue, knew how much their de-
“ voted, admired and familiar favour-
“ ites, despise, and speak of them; they
“ would have recourse to the sincerity
“ of virtue, to obtain honest praise, real
“ admiration, and solid pleasure.”

Lord Lyttelton's Posthumous Letters.

NOTES HISTORICAL.

As we are now entering upon the fifteenth century, a few general remarks may not be amiss.

Ignorance of the age, towards the beginning of the Century.

Baron Holberg, in his Introduction to Universal History, observes, that *Learning* was looked on as a sort of heresy; there were even bishops who did not so much as know their letters; so that in their subscriptions to synodal acts, the following words are to be found, namely; "As I cannot read myself, N.N. hath subscribed for me:" or, "As my lord bishop cannot write himself, at his request, I have subscribed."

I knew, said doctor Thomas Gascoigne, chancellor of Oxford, A. D. 1443, a certain illiterate idiot, the son of a mad knight, who being the companion, or rather the fool, of the sons of a great family of the royal blood, was made arch-deacon

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deacon of Oxford, before he was eighteen year, of age ; and soon after, obtained two rich rectories and twelve prebends. I asked him, one day, what he thought of learning. " As for learning," said he, " I despise it ; I have better livings than " any of you great doctors ; and, I believe, as " much as any of you.—What do you believe ?— " I believe all that God believes." WOOD.

Scarcity of Books.

The countess of Westmoreland presented a petition to the Privy Council in 1424, representing that the late king (Henry V.) had borrowed a book from her, and praying, that an order might be given, under the privy seal, for the restoration of the said book ; which was granted with great formality. RYMER.

Specimen of the Language and Poetry of this century, by James I. king of Scotland, under confinement.

This hopeful young prince having been sent by his father, King Robert III. to be educated in France,

France, but, being sea-sick on his voyage, was obliged to land at Scarborough, whence he was, by King Henry IV's order, brought up prisoner to London, and detained by him, and afterwards by his son, as a pledge for keeping the Scots in awe. The news of which imprisonment broke the old king's heart : and Robert, duke of Albany, James's uncle, governed that kingdom, as regent, during his nephew's captivity.

He was released, after eighteen years confinement, anno 1424, for the sum of 40,000*l.* ransom, payable at different times, within five years after his release. For securing the payment of which sum of money, hostages of Scotch nobility were delivered : and the four towns of Edinburgh, Perth, Dundee, and Aberdeen, bound themselves, by obligatory letters, under their seals, for collateral security.—Who can read the above relation, without feeling emotions for the broken-hearted parent, and the imprisoned son, more poignant than can well be expressed !

Specimen of the English language at this period, from some lines composed by the Prince during confinement.

The long days, and the nights eke,
 I wald bewaile my fortune in this wise,
 For quick again distresse comfort to seke,
 My custom was on mornis for to rise,
 Airly as day, a happy exercise.

Colleges founded.

Lincoln college, Oxford, was founded by Richard Fleming, bishop of Lincoln, 1430.

All Souls college in Oxford founded by Henry Chicheley archbishop of Canterbury, 1437.

Magdalen college at Oxford was founded by William Patten, bishop of Winchester, 1458.

King's college in Cambridge was founded by Henry VI. 1443.

Queen's College, Cambridge, was founded by Margaret, consort of Henry VI. 1448.

Katharine Hall, Cambridge, was founded by Robert Woodlark, the third provost of King's college, 1475.

Arts.

The noble art of printing was not only invented in this century, but greatly perfected, and which nearly coincided in point of time, with that most useful invention, *rag paper*. Though printing has thrown much light on every other subject, its own origin remains in some degree of obscurity. The invention, however, is generally ascribed to one Coster of Haerlem, who printed
several

several books with wooden types tyed together with threads, about the year 1430.

The introduction of printing into this kingdom seems unanimously ascribed to William Caxton, mercer and citizen of London ; a modest, worthy, and industrious man, an historian and translator of many books out of French into English.

Caxton, it seems, went to Holland, and enticed over one Corfellis, an under workman, who late one night stole from his fellows, in disguise, into a vessel prepared before for that purpose. It was not thought prudent to set him to work at London ; but Corfellis was carried with a guard to Oxon, which guard constantly watched, to prevent him from any possible escape, till he had made good his promise of teaching how to print. So that at Oxford, printing was first set up in England, which was, at least, ten years before there was any printing press, or printer, in Europe, except at Harlem and Mentz, where also it was but new-born.

MEERMAN'S Origin of Printing.

Caxton was greatly puzzled (such was the ignorance of the age, and the state of the language) to render his translations useful and intelligible ;

“ Some gentlemen,” says he, “ have blamed
 “ me, saying, that in my translations, I had over
 “ curious termes, which could not be under-
 “ stande by commyn peple, and desired me to
 “ use olde and homely termes in my translacons ;
 “ and sayne wolde I satisfy every man. But
 “ som honest and grete clerkes have been wyth
 “ me, and desyred me to wryte the most cury-
 “ ous termes that I coulde finde. And thus be-
 “ tween playne, rude and curious, I stand
 “ abash’d.”

N. B. How difficult to suit the taste of every reader’s palate !

The science of Algebra, and the knowledge of keeping, mercantile accounts by double entry, known commonly by the name of Italian book-keeping were introduced in this century.

Painting on glass, in oil-colours, the use of hops in malt liquors, were introduced. Cities and towns increased, wealth flowed in, from the improved state of commerce ;—and, near the close of this century, the whole Eastern coast of North America was explored by the English.

Manner of Living.

In this age, it was the custom in great families to have four meals a day, viz. breakfasts, dinners, suppers, and *liveries*, which last were a kind of small meal, in their own rooms, immediately before going to rest. The time of breakfasting was usually about seven in the morning, dinner at ten o'clock, supper at four in the afternoon, and their liveries about nine, the hour of retiring to sleep. The usual breakfast of an earl and his countess, on Sundays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, in the holy fast of Lent, was, "first, a loaf of bread, on trenchers, two manchetts, a quart of beer, a quart of wine, two pieces of salt fish, six baconed herrings, four white herrings, or a dish of sproits."—Their breakfast, on flesh days, was, "first, a loaf of bread on trenchers, two manchetts, a quart of beer, a quart of wine, half a chyne of mutton, or a chyne of beef boiled."—Their liveries, for the lord and lady were, "two manchetts, a loaf of household bread, a gallon of beer, and a quart of wine." The wine was warmed and mixed with spices.

REMARK.

Probably there has no greater alteration taken place than the mode of living, the time of rising, and sitting down to meals, with the *quality* and *quantity* of food consumed; the above being the allowance only for two persons, an earl and his countess; which, so far from being relished by the delicate stomach of a modern lady or gentleman, in a morning's repast; would more than suffice the craving appetite of a working mechanic, or daily labourer, of the eighteenth century.

Establishment and Expence of Henry IVth's
Household,

Henry, by declaration issued, sets apart the following sums, out of the subsidy of wool and leather, to be solely appropriated from the date, till Easter following, four months, for the expence of his household, and to no other end whatever, viz.

In

		L.	s.	D
In the port of London	—	700	8	4
Southampton	—	800	0	0
Hull	—	666	13	4
Boston	—	666	13	4
Lynn	—	133	6	8
Ipswich	—	666	13	4
Out of 3s. per ton on wine, and 12d. per lb. on other merchandize, in the port of London	—	466	5	0
Southampton	—	333	6	8
Bristol	—	533	6	8
Boston	—	100	0	0
Out of the customs of wool, in the port of Hull	—	100	0	0
Out of the issues of the Hannaper		666	13	4
From escheats and sheriffs proffers		666	13	4
		<hr/>		
		6500	0	0

Which makes the annual expence of the king's household, when trebled (the above being for only four months), 19,500l.

N. B. No mention made of the Port of Liverpool at this period.

REMARK.

By the above account, we learn what towns were then most considerable in the wool or wine

trade ; and, in part, how our kings of old supported the expences of their household, &c. namely, from the rents and profits of their own demefne lands, *fee-farm rents*, and fuch like certain and hereditary revenues, which were then confiderable, but have been fince lavifhed away ; and partly alfo from the above noted customs.

A. D. 1410. Henry IV. grants to the town of Cambridge, a number of fmall taxes, or *Tolls*, on provifions, &c. brought into their town, either by land or by water, for the fpace of three years, for enabling them to pave their ftreets, and to mend the high roads leading thither.

Henry IVth's Will begins thus,

“ In the name of God, Fader, and Son, and
 “ Holy Ghof, three perfons and on God, I
 “ Henry, finful wretch, &c.”

HENRY

H E N R Y V.

CHARACTER OF HENRY V.

THIS prince possessed many eminent virtues; and, if we give indulgence to ambition in a monarch, or rank it, as the vulgar do, among his virtues, they were unstained by any considerable blemish; his abilities appeared equally in the cabinet and in the field: the boldness of his enterprizes was no less remarkable than his personal valour in conducting them. He had the talent of attaching his friends by affability, and gaining his enemies by address and clemency.

The English, dazzled by the lustre of his character, still more by that of his victories, were reconciled to the de-

fects of his title. The French almost forgot he was an enemy ; and his care of maintaining justice in his civil administration, and preserving discipline in his armies, made some amends to both nations for the calamities inseparable from those wars in which his short reign was almost occupied. That he could forgive the earl of Marche, who had a better right to the throne than himself, is a sure proof of his magnanimity ; and that the earl relied so on his friendship, is no less a proof of his established character for candour and sincerity.

There remain, in history, few instances of such mutual trust ; and still fewer, where neither found reason to repent it.

The exterior figure of this great prince, as well as his deportment, was engaging. His stature was somewhat
above

above the middle size ; his countenance beautiful, his limbs genteel and slender, but full of vigour ; and he excelled in all war-like and manly exercises.

HUMF.

Died 31st August, 1422 ; in the year of his age 34 ; of his reign, the 10th.

ANOTHER CHARACTER OF HENRY V.

HENRY was tall and slender, with a long neck, and engaging aspect, and limbs of the most elegant turn. He excelled all the youth of that age, in agility, and the exercise of arms ; was hardy, patient, laborious, and more capable of enduring cold, hunger, and fatigue, than any individual in his army. His valour was such, as no danger could startle, and no difficulty oppose ;

nor was his policy inferior to his courage.

He managed the dissensions, among his enemies, with such address, as spoke him consummate in the arts of the cabinet. He fomented their jealousy, and converted their mutual resentment to his own advantage.

Henry possessed a self-taught genius, that blazed out at once, without the aid of instruction and experience; and a fund of natural sagacity, that made ample amends for all these defects. He was chaste, temperate, moderate, and devout, scrupulously just in his administration, and severely exact in the discipline of his army; upon which he knew his glory and success, in a great measure, depended. In a word, it must be owned, he was without an equal in the arts of war, policy, and government. But we cannot be so far
dazzled

dazzled with his great qualities, as to overlook the defects in his character. His pride and imperious temper lost him the hearts of the French nobility, and frequently fell out into outrage and abuse ; as at the siege of Melun, when he treated the Marechal l'Isle d'Adam with the utmost indignity, although that nobleman had given him no other offence, than that of coming into his presence in plain decent apparel.

SMOLLETT.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE CHARACTER OF
HENRY V.

HENRY V. presents to us a character but seldom found, namely, a libertine reclaimed ; as such examples are rare, they are more remarkable. It should seem too, that Henry's intemperances
were

were of that species, above all others, the most destructive to the health of the body, and most unfriendly to the cultivation of the mind; and, perhaps, an example of more virtuous resolution can hardly be displayed, than he who has conquered a habit of drunkenness: that Henry was guilty of *this vice*, appears too evident, from the company he kept, the frolicks he committed with his companions, and the place where they associated *, to admit of a doubt; but that he conquered this habit, appears also equally evident, since his character afterwards, is of a prince, “ chaste, “ temperate, moderate, devout.” As this vicious propensity has so many fatal consequences, it may not be amiss to say something on this subject, which cannot be better expressed than in the words

* Blue Boar, Eastcheap.

of a judicious writer, which we have the liberty to transcribe.

“ Drunkenness is either actual or habitual ; just as it is one thing to be drunk, and another to be a drunkard. What we shall deliver upon the subject must principally be understood of a *habit* of intemperance ; although part of the guilt and danger described may be applicable to casual excesses, and *all* of it, in a certain degree, forasmuch as every habit is only a repetition of single instances.

“ The mischief of drunkenness, from which we are to compute the guilt of it, consists in the following bad effects :

“ 1. It betrays most constitutions either into extravagances of anger, or sins of lewdness.

“ 2. It

“ 2. It disqualifies men for the duties of their station, both by the temporary disorder of their faculties, and, at length, by a constant incapacity and stupefaction.

“ 3. It is attended with expences, which can often be ill spared.

“ 4. It is sure to occasion uneasiness to the family of the drunkard.

“ 5. It shortens life.

“ To these consequences of drunkenness, must be added the peculiar danger and mischief of the *example*. Drunkenness is a social festive vice ; apt, beyond any vice I can mention, to draw in others by the example. The free-drinker collects his circle ; the circle naturally spreads ; of those who are drawn within it, many become the corrupters, and centres of parties and circles of their own ; every one countenancing, and, perhaps, emulating the rest,

rest, till a whole neighbourhood be infected, from the contagion of a single example.

“ This account is confirmed by what we often observe of drunkenness, that it is a *local* vice, found to prevail in certain countries, certain districts of a country, or in particular towns, without any reason being given for the fashion, but that it had been introduced by some popular examples. With this reflection upon the spreading quality of drunkenness, let us connect a remark which belongs to the several evil effects above recited. The consequences of a vice, like the symptoms of a disease, though they be all enumerated in the description, seldom all meet in the same subject. In this instance under consideration, the age and temperature of one drunkard may have little to fear from inflammations of lust or anger; the fortune

tune of a second may not be injured by the expence ; a third may have no family to be disquieted by his irregularities ; and a fourth may possess a constitution fortified against the poison of strong liquors. But if, as we always ought to do, we comprehend, within the consequences of our conduct, the mischief and tendency of the example, the above circumstances, however fortunate to the individual, will be found to vary the guilt of his intemperance less probably than he supposes.

“ Although the waste of time and money may be of small importance to you, it may be of the utmost to some one or other whom your society corrupts. Repeated, or long continued, excesses, which hurt not your health, may be fatal to your companion. Although you have neither wife, nor child, nor parent, to lament your absence from home,

home, or expect your return to it with terror; other families, whose husbands and fathers have been invited to share in your ebriety, or encouraged to imitate it, may justly lay their misery or ruin at your door. This will hold good, whether the person seduced be seduced immediately by you, or the vice be propagated from you to him, through several intermediate examples. A moralist must assemble all these considerations, to judge truly of a vice which usually meets with milder names, and more indulgence than it deserves."

—"I omit those outrages upon one another, and upon the peace and safety of the neighbourhood in which drunken revels often end; and also those deleterious and maniacal effects, which strong liquors produce upon particular constitutions; because, in general propositions concerning drunkenness, no consequences should

should be included, but what are constant enough to be generally expected."

* * * *

"The appetite for intoxicating liquors, appears to me to be almost always *acquired*. One proof of which is, that it is apt to return only at particular times; as, after dinner, in the evening, on the market-day, at the market-town, in such a company, at such a tavern. And this may be the reason, that if a habit of drunkenness be ever overcome, it is upon some change of place, situation, company, or profession. A man sunk deep in a habit of drunkenness, will, upon such occasions as these, when he finds himself loosened from the associations which held him fast, sometimes make a plunge and get out.. In a matter

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ter of such great importance, it is well worth while, where it is tolerably convenient, to change our habitation and society, for the sake of the experiment.

“ Habits of drunkenness commonly take their rise, either from a fondness for, and connection with, some company or some companion already addicted to this practice; which affords an almost irresistible invitation to take a share in the indulgencies which those about us are enjoying with so much apparent relish and delight; or want of regular employment, which is sure to let in many superfluous cravings and customs, and this among the rest; or, lastly, from grief or fatigue, both which strongly solicit that relief, which inebriating liquors administer for the present, and furnish a specious excuse for complying with the inclination. But the habit,
when

when once set in, is continued by different motives from those to which it owes its origin.

“ Persons addicted to excessive drinking suffer in the intervals of sobriety, and near the return of their accustomed indulgence, a faintness and oppression *circa præcordia*, which it exceeds the ordinary patience of human nature to endure. This is usually relieved, for a short time, by a repetition of the same excess; and to this relief, as to the relief of any long continued pain, they who have once experienced it are urged almost beyond the power of resistance. This is not all: as the liquor loses its *stimulus*, the dose must be increased to reach the same pitch of elevation, or ease; which increase proportionably accelerates the progress of all the maladies which drunkenness brings on. Whoever reflects on the violence of the craving,

ing,

ing, in the advanced stages of the habit, and the fatal termination to which the gratification of it leads, will, the moment he perceives the least tendency in himself of a growing inclination to intemperance, collect his resolution to this point ; or what, perhaps, he will find his best security, arm himself with some peremptory rule, as to the times and quantities of his indulgences. I own myself a friend to the laying down rules to ourselves of this sort, and rigidly abiding by them. They may be exclaimed against as stiff ; but they are often salutary. Indefinite resolutions of abstemiousness are apt to yield to *extraordinary* occasions ; and *extraordinary* occasions to occur perpetually. Whereas, the stricter the rule is, the more tenacious we grow of it : and many a man will abstain, rather than break a rule, who would not be easily brought

to exercise the same mortification from higher motives. Not to mention, that when our rule is once known, we are provided with an answer to every opportunity.

“ There is a difference, no doubt, between convivial intemperance, and that solitary sottishness, which waits neither for company nor invitation. But the one, I am afraid, commonly ends in the other ; and this last is the basest degradation to which the faculties and dignity of human nature can be reduced.” Rev. Dr. PALEY, Chancellor of Carlisle.

“ Henry’s pride and imperious temper lost him the hearts of the French nobility, and frequently fell out into outrage and abuse.”

We cannot offer a better antidote against such violences and fevers of the mind, than what is said on the subject of *anger*, by the above quoted author.

“ Re

“ Reflections proper for this purpose, and which may be called *sedatives* of anger, are the following ;

“ The probability of mistaking the motives from which the conduct that offends us proceeded ; how often *our* offences have been the effect of inadvertency, when they were mistaken for malice ; the inducement which prompted our adversary, to act as he did ; and how powerfully the same inducement has, at one time or other, operated upon ourselves ; that he is suffering, perhaps, under a contrition, which he is ashamed, or wants opportunity to confess ; and how ungenerous it is to triumph by coldness, or insult over a spirit already humbled in secret ; that the returns of kindness are sweet, and that there is neither honour, nor virtue, nor use, in resisting them (for some persons think themselves bound to cherish, and studi-

ously keep alive, their indignation, when they find it dying away of itself); we may remember, that others have their passions, their prejudices and their favourite aims, their fears, their cautions, their sudden impulses, their varieties of apprehension, as well as we; we may recollect what has passed in our own minds, when we have got on the wrong side of a quarrel; and imagine the same to be passing in our adversary's mind now. When we become sensible of our misbehaviour, what palliations we received in it, and expected others to perceive; how we were affected by the kindness, and felt the superiority, of a generous reception and ready forgiveness; how persecution revived our spirits with our enmity, and seemed to justify the conduct in ourselves which we before blamed. Add to this, the indecency of extravagant anger; how
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it renders us, while it lasts, the scorn and sport of all about us, of which it leaves us, when it ceases, sensible and ashamed ; the inconveniencies, and irretrievable misconduct, into which our infirmity has sometimes betrayed us, the friendships it has lost us ; the distresses and embarrassments in which we have been involved by it, and the sore repentance which, on one account or other, it always costs us.

“ But the reflection calculated, above all others, to bring down that haughtiness of temper which is ever finding provocations, and renders anger so impetuous, is that which the Gospel first proposed, namely, that we ourselves are, or shortly shall be, suppliants for mercy and pardon at the judgment-seat of God. Imagine our secret sins all disclosed and brought to light ; imagine us thus humbled and exposed, trem-

bling under the hand of God; casting ourselves on his compassion, crying out for mercy ;—imagine such a creature to talk of satisfaction and revenge ; refusing to be entreated, disdaining to forgive ; extreme to mark and to resent what is done amiss ; imagine, I say, this, and you can hardly feign to yourself an instance of more impious and unnatural arrogance.”

“The point is, to habituate ourselves to these reflections, till they rise up of their own accord, when they are wanted ; that is, instantly upon the receipt of an injury or affront ; and with such force and colouring as both to mitigate the paroxysms of our anger, and at length to produce an alteration in the temper and constitution itself.”

Lord Chesterfield's dissuasive to his son from yielding to the impetuosity of his
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his temper, is expressed in the following manner :

“ A vulgar man is captious and jealous, eager and impetuous about trifles, he suspects himself to be slighted, —thinks every thing that is said, meant of him; if the company happen to laugh, he is persuaded they laugh at him ; he grows angry and testy, says something very impertinent, and draws himself into a scrape by what he calls a proper spirit, and exerting himself.”

There is something so soothing and engaging, as well as sound argument, in the advice of the wise king of Israel, that we will conclude this subject with his admonitions.

“ Admonish thy friend ; it may be he hath not done it ; and, if he have, that he do it no more. Admonish thy friend ; it may be he hath not said it ;

and if he have, that he speak it not again. Admonish thy friend; for many times it is a slander, and believe not every tale. There is one that slippeth with his speech, but not in his heart; and who is he that has not offended with his tongue?"

There is one particular in this prince's character, which often serves to cover a multitude of faults; and although it were better there were *none* to cover, this accomplished quality is worthy the attention even of those who are possessed of many virtues; since it may serve to embellish and enforce them with greater energy. "Henry had the talent of attaching his friends by affability, and gaining his enemies by address and clemency."

The

**The Character of HENRY further
illustrated from history.**

This Henry is the facetious prince, whom Shakespeare has introduced as a character, and associate in the merry pranks of Falstaff, in two of his historical plays. The following extract may shew, how closely the poet and historian have adhered in delineation of character.

Henry broke out into extravagancies of every kind : and the riot of pleasure, the frolic of debauchery, the outrage of wine, filled the vacancies of a mind, better adapted to the pursuits of ambition, than the cares of government. The course of his life threw him among companions, whose disorders, if accompanied with spirit and humour, he seconded and indulged ; and he was detected in many fallies, which to severer eyes appeared totally unworthy of his rank and station.

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There even remains a tradition, that, when heated with jollity, he scrupled not to accompany his riotous associates in attacking passengers in the streets and highways, and despoiling them of their goods ; and he found an amusement in the incidents, which the terror and regret of these people produced on such occasions. Among his many frolicks, there were observed many gleams of generosity, spirit, and magnanimity, breaking continually through the cloud, which a wild conduct threw over his character, that the nation in general hoped for an amendment ; and they ascribed all these weeds, which shot up in that rich soil, to the want of proper culture and attention in the king and his ministers. There passed an event, which encouraged these agreeable views, and gave much occasion for favourable

re-

reflections, to all men of sense and candour.

A riotous companion of the prince's had been indicted before [Gascoigne] the chief justice, for some disorder; and Henry was not ashamed to appear at the bar with the criminal, in order to give him countenance and protection. Finding that his presence had not overawed the chief justice, he proceeded to insult the magistrate on the tribunal; but Gascoigne, mindful of his character which he then bore, and the majesty of the sovereign; and the laws, ordered the prince to be carried to prison for his rude behaviour. The spectators were agreeably disappointed, when they saw the heir of the crown submit peaceably to this sentence, and make reparation for his error, by acknowledging it, and check its impetuous nature in the midst of its extravagant career.

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The memory of this incident, and many others of the like nature, rendered the future prospect of his reign no wise disagreeable to the nation, and increased the joy which the death of so unpopular a prince as the late king naturally occasioned. The first steps taken by the young king, confirmed all those prepossessions entertained in his favour.

He called together his former companions, acquainted them with his intended reformation, exhorting them to imitate his example; but strictly inhibited them, till they had given proofs of their sincerity in this particular, to appear any more in his presence, and he thus dismissed them with liberal presents. The wise ministers of his father, who had checked his riots, found that they had unknowingly been paying the highest court to him; and were received with all the marks of confidence and favour.

favour. The chief justice himself, who trembled to approach the royal presence, met with praises, instead of reproaches for his past conduct, and was exhorted to persevere in the same rigorous and impartial execution of the laws. The surprize of those who expected an opposite behaviour augmented their satisfaction, and the character of the young king appeared brighter, than if it had never been shaded with errors.

N. B. Who would not wish to have been the forgiving and repenting HENRY, to have shared his praises, and enjoyed his feelings? — To obtain such *rewards*, we must practise *his* virtues.

NOTES HISTORICAL.

Priests Salary.

A.D. 1414. It was enacted that the salary of a Parish Priest should be six pounds a year for his board, apparel, and other necessities; and the yearly wages of chaplains should be 4l. 13s. 4d. In the 36th Edward III. (1362), it was enacted by Parliament, that no man should give a parish priest more than 3l. 6s. 8d. a year; or 1l. 6s. 8d. and his board. This, in the short space of 52 years, is a considerable advance in the living of a single clergyman, being almost doubled; or, as *ten is to eighteen*, and which proves the good effect, at this time evident, of Edward's introduction of the woollen manufactory into his kingdom; the general increase of commerce and of people, and of consequence expenditure. For increase of commerce naturally increases the circulation of money, and adds to the general stock; and an increase of money will again advance the price of all the necessities, and cause what is called, more expence of living.

First.

First English Record.

A. D. 1415. The first record written in the *English* tongue, and by any Englishman, is in this year ; being the confession of Richard Earl of Cambridge.

Holbourn paved.

A.D. 1417. Henry employed, at his own expence, two vessels, each of twenty tons burden, for bringing stones for paving and mending the highway, named Holbourn, which was then so deep and miry, that many perils and hazards were thereby occasioned. It may not be amiss to remark the wonderful increase of building in this neighbourhood since this period, and addition of many streets, besides the present one. —Holbourn then, as appears, not being a *street*, but an *highway*.

Henry's Necessities.

A. D. 1417. Henry's wars and monstrous expences reduced him to many miserable shifts;
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in order to extricate himself. He borrowed money from all quarters; he pawned his jewels, and sometimes the crown itself. He ran into arrears with his army; and he was often obliged, notwithstanding all these expedients, to stop in the midst of his career of victory, and to grant truces to the enemy. All the extraordinary supplies granted by Parliament to Henry during the course of his reign, were only seven-tenths and fifteenths, or about 203,000*l.* a sum which would be reckoned as nothing in these days towards the support and carrying on a war, when estimates are made under the denomination of *millions*.

But Henry's necessities were such, that he pawned this year two gold chased basons, weighing together 28 lb. 8 oz. of gold, to two of the canons of St. Paul's, London, for 600 marks, or 448*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* at the low rate of 1*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* per ounce; and two gold shells to the Dean of Lincoln, valued at the same low rate.

Crown Revenue.

The revenues of the crown, during this reign, amounted to 55,754*l.* 18*s.* 10*d.* a year, which

is nearly the same sum in Henry III's reign, so that the revenues had continued nearly the same for this course of years. The ordinary expence of government amounted to 52,507*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.* The King, therefore, could only have a surplus of 3,026*l.* 14*s.* for the support of his household, his wardrobe, the expence of embassies, and other articles.

Of Henry's wardrobe, Sir Robert Cotton observes, "you shall find plain gowns of that king's, of less value than 40 shillings, and such other *costly* apparel as the worst pages of the least nobleman in these days would scorn to wear."

Death of Henry V.—and Remarks.

A. D. 1422. In this year died the brave Henry V. at a time when his conquests and influence in France gave him a reasonable and near prospect of gaining that monarchy. The Parliament of England, especially the House of Commons, at that time, took some steps for supporting the independency of this kingdom, upon the contingency of that event, though very far from fully answering that end ; since nothing was more probable

probable than that, had an English King entirely subdued France, his constant residence would have been in that kingdom, not only on account of its being the finer country of the two, but for political considerations which would have had great weight; and, particularly, as the king's residence there would have been absolutely necessary to have retained the people in due subjection. England would, therefore, (in that event) have become a mere province of France, than which nothing could have been more disagreeable or disadvantageous to this nation, both as respecting their commerce and opulence, their liberty and independence. How brilliant soever, therefore, historians have represented the conquests of Edward III. and Henry V. in France; the death of the latter, at this time, and the expulsion of the English from France in the succeeding feeble reign of his son, were rather blessings than misfortunes to England.

The city of Calais alone was an annual expence to the Crown of 19, 101 that is, above one-third of the common charge of Government in the time of peace. This fortress was of no use

to the defence of England, and only gave to this kingdom an inlet to annoy France.

If commerce could be carried on without territory.—And why should it not? The natural order of things does not seem to require possession of country to the purpose of traffic;—and it is hoped, in this liberal age, which justly boasts such expanded sentiments and humane principles, that men in authority will, in due season, think better on this subject, than to cut the throats of thousands to become masters of a sandy desert, or barren rock, merely to possess an exclusive trade; and thereby deny to others what should be common to any people, that can supply the country with a better article, and on better terms. In such an expanded scale of commerce, the palm would be *detur dignissimo*: and would at least serve to stimulate the mechanic, tradesman, and merchant, to trials of skill in their respective spheres, be more consistent with sound policy, more subservient to the interest of society.

This subject further illustrated.—We were happy to find this celebrated writer's opinion to agree so nearly with our own.

“ What commonly is gained to a nation, by
 “ the annexing of new dependencies, or the sub-
 “ jugation

“jugation of other countries to its dominion, but
 “a wider frontier to defend ; more interfering
 “claims to vindicate ; more quarrels, more ene-
 “mies ; more rebellions to encounter ; a greater
 “force to keep by sea and land ; more services
 “to provide for, more establishments to pay ?
 “And, in order to draw from these acquisitions
 “something that may make up for the charge of
 “keeping them, a revenue is to be extorted,
 “or a monopoly to be enforced and watched,
 “at an expence which costs half the produce.
 “Thus the provinces are oppressed, in order to
 “pay for being ill-governed ; and the original
 “state is exhausted in maintaining an authority
 “overdiscontented subjects. No assignable portion
 “of country is benefited by the change ; and
 “if the Sovereign himself appear to be enrich-
 “ed or strengthened, when every part of his do-
 “minions is made poorer and weaker than it
 “was, it is probable he is deceived by appear-
 “ances. Or, were it true, that the grandeur of a
 “prince is magnified by these exploits ; that glory
 “which is purchased, and that ambition which
 “is gratified, by the distress of one country,
 “without adding to the happiness of another,
 “which, at the same time, enslaves the new
 “and

“ and impoverishes the ancient part of the empire, by whatever names it be known, or flattered, is an object of universal execration ; and not more so to the vanquished, than it is oftentimes to the very people whose arms, or whose territories, have atchieved the victory.”

Rev. Dr. Paley, Chancellor of Carlisle.

That extended territories seem not to contribute much to the welfare of a state ; the late revolution in the western world, and our distracted affairs at present in the eastern, seem too corroborating truths.

England's conquests in France proved the loss of French Liberty.

The English having possession of great part of France, the three estates of that kingdom could not meet, for the purpose of granting taxes, levying troops, &c. as usual ; so that *their* King Charles VII. was necessitated to do the same, as well as he could, by his *sole* authority alone, which proved, doubtless, a joyful precedent to his.

his successors, who were the more easily enabled to preserve their despotic authority ; because, in France, the taxes fall mostly on the great body of the commonalty, and but little on the noblesse and clergy, who also are in other respects dependent on the Crown ; wherefore the two last-named orders left the bulk of the people to the king's mercy, though in the end they most *justly* also lost their own liberties.

Alterations made in the Value of Money.

Henry V. raised the denomination of a lb. troy of silver, from 25s. as high as 30s. and it may not be amiss here to remark, that in the first year of his reign a pound of silver was coined into 37s. 6d.—but, in the fourth year of the same reign, silver was again brought down to 30s. per pound weight ; and, in the last year of it, was again brought to 37s. 6d. and continued so for near fifty years afterwards. Again, a pound of gold was coined, in the said first year, into forty-five rials, bearing 10s. value each, or 22l. 10s. per pound ; but in the said fourth year, gold was brought down to 16l. 13s. 4d.

H E N R Y

H E N R Y VI.

HUME's Account of HENRY VI. (for there is no regular Character of this Prince given by this historian) is expressed in the following manner.

IN this manner finished the reign of Henry VI. who, while yet in his cradle, had been proclaimed king both of France and England, and who began his life with the most splendid prospects which any prince in Europe had ever enjoyed. The revolution was unhappy for his people, as it was the source of civil wars; but was almost entirely indifferent to Henry himself, who was utterly incapable of exercising his authority, and who, provided he met perpetually

petually with good usage, was equally easy, as he was equally enslaved, in the hands of his enemies and of his friends. His weakness, and his disputed title, were the chief causes of his public misfortunes : but whether his queen and his ministers were not guilty of some great abuses of power, it is not easy for us, at this distance of time, to determine. There remain no proofs on record of any considerable violation of the laws, except in the death of the duke of Gloucester, which was a private crime, formed no precedent, and was but too much of a piece with the usual ferocity and cruelty of the times.

SMOLLETT'S Account of the Death of
HENRY VI. with some Strictures of
Character, is as follows.

THIS insurrection * in all probability hastened the death of the unfortunate Henry, who was found dead in the Tower, in which he had been confined since the restoration of Edward. The greater part of historians have alledged that he was assassinated by the duke of Gloucester, who was a prince of the most brutal disposition; while some moderns, from an affectation of singularity, affirm that Henry died of grief and vexation. This, no doubt, might have been the case; and it must be owned, that nothing appears in history, from

* Revolt of the bastard of Falconbridge.

which

which either Edward or Richard could be convicted of having contrived or perpetrated his murder : but, at the same time, we must observe some concurring circumstances that amount to strong presumption against the reigning monarch. Henry was of a hale constitution, but just turned of fifty, naturally insensible of affliction, and hackneyed in the vicissitudes of fortune, so that one would not expect he should have died of age and infirmity, or that his life would have been affected by grief arising from his last disaster. His sudden death was suspicious, as well as the conjuncture at which he died, immediately after the suppression of a rebellion, which seemed to declare that Edward would never be quiet, while the head of the House of Lancaster remained alive: and lastly, the suspicion is confirmed by the characters of the
reigning

reigning king and his brother Richard, who were bloody, barbarous, and unrelenting. Very different was the disposition of the ill-fated Henry, who, without any princely virtue or qualification, was totally free from cruelty or revenge: on the contrary, he could not, without reluctance, consent to the punishment of those malefactors who were sacrificed to the public safety; and frequently sustained indignities of the grossest nature, without discovering the least mark of resentment. He was chaste, pious, compassionate, and charitable, and so inoffensive, that the bishop, who was his confessor for ten years, declares, that in all that time he had never committed any sin that required penance or rebuke. In a word, he would have adorned a cloister, though he disgraced a crown; and was rather respectable for those vices he want-

ed, than for those virtues he possessed. He founded the colleges of Eaton and Windsor, and King's College in Cambridge, for the reception of those scholars who had begun their studies at Eaton.

On the morning that succeeded his death, his body was exposed at St. Paul's church, in order to prevent unfavourable conjectures, and, next day, sent by water to the abbey of Chertsey, where he was interred; but it was afterwards removed, by order of Richard III. to Windsor, and there buried with great funeral solemnity.

REMARK.

Henry VI. seems never to have passed the stage of infancy. His qualities are mere negatives, or what any good child might possess without any of the characteristics which are found in our knowledge of man.

NOTES HISTORICAL.**Pilgrimages.**

A. D. 1428. The complexion or manners of this age may be, in some measure, collected from the following circumstances; namely, that abundance of licences were granted from the crown of England to captains of English ships, for carrying numbers of devout persons to the shrine of

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St. James of Compostella, in Spain ; provided, however, that those pilgrims should first take an oath, not to take any thing prejudicial to England, nor to reveal any of its secrets,—nor to carry out with them any more gold or silver than what would be sufficient for their reasonable expences. In this year there went out thither from England, on the said pilgrimage, the following number of persons.

From London	280	From Jersey	60
Bristol	200	Plymouth	40
Weymouth	122	Exeter	30
Dartmouth	90	Poole	24
Yarmouth	60	Ipswich	20

In all, 916 persons.

Standard Weight established.

A.D. 1429. It was enjoined this year by parliament, that every city and town in England should, at their own expence, keep a common balance, with sealed weights corresponding to the standards in the Exchequer ; and that all the in-

habitants might weigh thereby, without paying any thing for the same; but strangers were not exempted paying. And, by the said statute, it was enacted, that no man should buy woollen yarn, unless he will make cloth thereof.

Voters for Knights of the shire.

In this year also we learn, that the elections for knights of shires having, till then, been made by tumultuous people of small substance, or of no value; it was now *first* enacted, that the voters should have, at least, 2l. yearly in land; and by a subsequent statute Ann. 1432, the said 2l. yearly was to be freehold land, which, with double the quantity of silver, and rate of living is equal to about 16l. a year at present.

The preamble of this statute is thus expressed;
“Whereas the elections of knights, have of late,
“in many counties of England, been made by
“outrageous and excessive numbers of people,
“many of small substance and value, yet pre-
“tending to a right equal to the best knights and
“esquires; whereby manslaughter, riots, bat-

“ teries, and divisions, among the gentlemen of
 “ the said counties, shall very likely rise and be
 “ riotous, unless due remedy be provided in this
 “ behalf—”

From this may be inferred, of how much importance was now become the election of a member of parliament in England, and the power and authority of the Commons. Vid. vol. I. p. 138, & seq.

Anno 1430. A curious catalogue of the mercantile productions of every state in Europe, France excepted, which country was then in a miserable situation, from her continual warfare and English conquests, so that much of its land lay uncultivated, and overgrown with briars and thorns, like a wood infested with wild beasts; and its people reduced to poverty and desolation.

The account is from Haluyt, a poet, written in poor rhyme, but with good sense; the intent of the poem, being to inculcate the absolute necessity of England's keeping the sea, and its title, “ The Process of English Policy.”

1. From

1. From Spain come wines, figs, raisins, dates, liquorice, oil, grain, soap, wax, iron, wool, wadmol, red skins, saffron, and quicksilver; all which are transported to Bruges, the then emporium of Flanders, by her haven of Sluys; where are so many fair and large ships; but then, says our poet, they must all pass between Dover and Calais.

2. From Flanders, the Spanish ships lade homeward fine cloth of Ypres and of Courtray, of all colours, much fustian, and also linen cloth. Thus (says he) if we be masters at sea, both Spain and Flanders, who depend so mutually on each other, must necessarily keep measures with us: and if England should think fit to deny to Flanders her wool and tin, and should also prevent the Spanish wool (which they work up with English wool) from getting to Flanders; the last named small country would soon be starved.

3. Portugal is our friend; it sends much merchandize into England, and our people resort thither for trade. They have wines, ossey, wax, grain, raisins, dates, honey, Cordovant leather, hides, &c, all which are carried in great quantities to Flanders (which our author terms the then

England and Flanders. (This shews the balance was against us with those Italian republics.)

9. To the Brabant marts (which we call fairs) we send English cloth; and bring back mercury, haberdashery, and grocery.

To those marts repair the English, French, Catalans, Lombards, Genoese, Scots, Spaniards; and the Irish also live there, and deal in great quantities of hides, &c. He also adds, The English buy more goods at those marts than all the other nations together. Wherefore (says he) let us keep the sea well, and they must be our friends.

10. Brabant, Holland, and Zealand, afforded little merchandize properly of their own, but madder and woad for dyers, garlick, onions, and salt-fish; for the other rich merchandize which the English buy at the said marts, come in carts over land, from Burgundy, Cologne, &c.

11. Ireland's commodities are hides and fish, as salmon, herrings, and hake-wool, linen-cloth, and skins of wild beasts.—Here we may remark the antiquity of the linen manufacture in Ireland.

To keep Ireland in obedience to us is of great importance, and cannot be done without our being

ing masters at sea. And the like may be said as to Calais.

REMARK.

To the above *curious* extract, which exhibits a brief state of the then productions and manufactures of the different states of Europe; we may observe the wonderful alterations, in the several states, within the small space of 300 years. And that the great political maxim was also then well understood, namely, that unless we were superior to any other nation on the seas, not only our trade, but even our existence as a free and independent people, must be lost.

Rate of Living.

A. D. 1439. At this time, the rate of a Clergyman's yearly salary was about 5*l.* which sum, containing twice as much silver as at present, was equal to 10*l.* and which would go as far, according to the price of provisions then, as 40*l.* in this age; and which continued pretty near the

same till the reign of Edward VI: when the coins were reduced to the same quantity of silver as at present.

The above account farther confirmed by the qualification of a justice of peace for the county.

In the 18th year of Henry VI. it was enacted, that a justice of peace for the county should possess 20l. a year in lands or tenements; "Because (says the act) of late, men of small behaviour, and who, for necessity, do great extortion, had been in commission." But in corporations (as at present) justices were not obliged to have this qualification.

1

Fashion of some of Henry VI's plate, which, in his necessity, he pawned out of his Jewel-office to two Goldsmiths of London, to whom he owed 3,150l. viz.

lb. oz.

lb. oz.

One great alms dish gilded, made in the fashion of a ship, with armed men on board her, weighing	—	67	9
Two gilded flagons, scollop fashion		64	9½
Two dozen dishes—six do. plates—			
Thirty-five gilt saucers	—	255	7
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		388	1½
		<hr/>	<hr/>

N.B. This quantity of silver (being but double the quantity of our money) could be but a small part of an adequate security for the sum borrowed, and must therefore have been only part of a pawn to something else he pledged,

N.B. The crown revenue of the kings of England was gradually reduced so low in this year 1449, as not to exceed 5,000l. yearly, occasioned by extravagance of the kings to favourites; wherefore there was a general resumption of the crown-lands made by parliament this year.

Exportation of Grain.

Permission was given by parliament to export corn when it was at low prices : wheat, at 6s. 8d. per

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per quarter ; barley, at 3s. 4d. money of that age. The inland commerce of corn was also opened, in the eighteenth of Henry VI. by allowing any collector of the customs to give a licence for carrying it from one country to another. The same year a kind of navigation act was proposed with all places within the Streights ; but the king rejected it.

A remarkable Statute, reducing the number of Attornies-at-law in the two manufacturing counties of Norfolk and Suffolk.

Twenty-third of Henry VI. cap. vii. the act recites, “ that not long past there were not more than six or eight attornies, in both those counties and the city of Norwich together, in which times, great tranquillity reigned there ; whereas *now* there be more than *four score* attornies, most part of whom, not being of sufficient knowledge, come to fairs, markets, and other public places, *exhorting, procuring, and moving and exciting* the people to suits for small *trespasses*, &c. Wherefore, there

there shall be hereafter but ~~six~~ attornies for the county of Suffolk, ~~six~~ for Norfolk, and ~~two~~ for the city of Norwich.

Philosopher's Stone.

The opinion that one metallic or other foreign substance might be changed into another, was, it seems, at this time propagated by certain chemists, whose observations on the surprising effects and alterations produced in certain substances, by the force of heat ; carried their imaginations beyond what sound judgment might warrant. The first instance of which on record is in vol. xi. p. 68. of the *Fœdera* ; wherein Henry VI. grants a licence to John Cobbe, freely to work in metals, he having, by philosophical art, found out a method of transferring imperfect metals into perfect gold and silver.

This pretended secret, known afterwards by the name of the *philosopher's stone*, or *powder*, was encouraged by four licences, granted to different projectors during this reign, and at sundry times after, during this century particularly, and in succeeding

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ceeding times, all over Europe. The phrenzy has not entirely ceased even to this day, although it meets with neither public encouragement, nor countenance from men of sober reason; the projectors having yet found nothing from their airy schemes in this mode of search, but certain ruin to their property. Vid. vol. I. page 205.

EDWARD

EDWARD IV.

CHARACTER OF EDWARD IV.

EDWARD IV. was a prince more splendid and shewy than either prudent or virtuous ; brave, though cruel ; addicted to pleasure, though capable of activity in great emergencies ; and less fitted to prevent ills by wise precautions, than to remedy them after they took place, by his vigour and enterprize.

HUME.

ANOTHER CHARACTER OF EDWARD IV.

He was a prince of the most elegant person and insinuating address ; endowed with the utmost fortitude, and
intre-

say that his whole life was one continued scene of excess that way; he had abundance of mistresses, but especially three, of whom he said, that one was the merriest, the other the wittiest, and the other the holiest in the world, since she would not stir from the church but when he sent for her.—What is most astonishing in the life of this prince is his good fortune, which seemed to be prodigious.

He was raised to the throne, after the loss of two battles, one by the duke his father, the other by the Earl of Warwick, who was devoted to the house of York. The head of the father was still upon the walls of York, when the son was proclaimed in London.

Edward escaped, as it were, by miracle, out of his confinement at Middleham. He was restored to the throne, or at least received into London, at his return

return from Holland, before he had overcome, and whilst his fortune yet depended upon the issue of a battle which the earl of Warwick was ready to give him. In a word, he was ever victorious in all the battles wherein he fought in person.

Edward died the 9th of April in the 42d year of his age, after a reign of 22 years and one month. RAPIN.

OBSERVA-

**OBSERVATIONS ON THE CHARACTER OF
EDWARD IV.**

THE two historians * are remarkably concise in their character of this prince. Rapin, whom we have here also quoted, has drawn his character out to some greater length; but, at the same time, it is doubtful whether we gain information equal to the prolixity. The last quoted historian observes, that “ what is
“ most extraordinary in the life of this
“ prince, is, his great fortune which
“ seem prodigious.”

Which observation may be applied to the sanguine expectations with which youth are frequently buoyed up, on their first entrance upon active life. Unexperienced in those stratagems which the wise men of this world practise against the artless, they fear

* Hume and Smoll .

no danger. Accustomed hitherto to success, in gaining their ends, from the fond partiality of former friends; upon these premises, they infer and conclude, that their indigested schemes will not be frustrated; that FORTUNE is disposed to be propitious towards themselves. And it is true, that hazardous enterprizes are sometimes undertaken, “and the fortunate issue is “prodigious.” Whilst Experience, with its hoary head and uplifted hands, may deprecate the rashness of the act; but the young adventurer rushes on,—succeeds—and triumphs. We need not dwell upon the bitter reflections that would ensue, if a contrary event had happened.

In the most common event, could we trace out the train of accidents and incidents, with their several causes and effects, retarding or promoting the same

—how wonderful would their several stages appear when developed and exposed to view ! But it is well that the knowledge of many interesting subjects are with-held from our knowledge, during our present existence.

If, for example, a fond father would know the temptations laid before a darling son, a hopeful youth, whom he expects to become the comfort of his venerable age ; to entice him to swerve from the practice of those moral precepts which have been the labour of his life to inculcate. Or a tender mother ;—the snares laid to seduce her beloved daughter, by the many artifices which the cunning of man can devise ; what grief of heart would it occasion to both ! A bitterness in contemplation, perhaps superior to a full knowledge of the worst.

What

What we would infer is, the wisdom of Providence manifested, in having cast such an impenetrable veil over such of its operations, as a full display of would only have rendered frail creatures more unhappy. And though some people's good fortune, like this Prince's, "may be prodigious," and contrary to the common course of things; yet it is not well to put too much confidence in adventitious circumstances; but rather to follow the more cautious and prudent steps of those who, we already know, have raised themselves by these regular means. "And though the race be not always to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, nor yet riches to men of understanding;"—and since, in this view, success may not be your lot; yet if your respective vocations be pursued with assiduity, and your dealings with men are maintained with integrity, you

cannot fail to *gain*, what is probably even of more value than the approbation of wise and good men—The approbation of a self acquitting clear conscience.

In perusing the history of these times, our thoughts must be excited by the intestine commotions and civil discords which broke out so frequently in *this* and some preceding reigns, and afterwards, till Henry VII. ascended the throne, the contest was between two branches of one family, under the titles of York and Lancaster.

Rapin observes, “ If ever there was
 “ reason to shew mercy in case of re-
 “ bellion, it was at that fatal time, when
 “ it was almost impossible to stand neu-
 “ ter, and so difficult to chuse the just-
 “ est side, between the two houses that
 “ were contending for the crown ; and
 “ yet

“ yet we do not see that Henry had any regard to that consideration.”

Happy for us, my young friends, to be born and live in an age; in which these domestic broils are only known by tradition, or through the page of history; that we are not now called upon to declare *for*, unite *to*, or fight *under*, the banner of civil discord, contending upon our own plains; where families are divided against themselves; father against son, and daughter against mother. Instead of these dreadful horrors, we may each of us sit in security, and enjoy the fruits of our labours—paying such a portion of it (which at this period is no small one) as the legislature requires, as a tribute for this happy security.

Hume observes, there is no part of English history, since the conquest, so obscure, so uncertain, so little authentic, or so inconsistent, as that of the wars between

the two houses of York and Lancaster. Historians differ about many material circumstances; some events of the utmost consequence, in which all agree, are incredible, and contradicted by records; and it is remarkable, that this profound darkness falls upon us just on the eve of the restoration of letters, and when the art of printing was already known in Europe. All we can distinguish with certainty, through the deep cloud which covers that period, is a scene of horror and bloodshed, savage manners, arbitrary executions, and treacherous, dishonourable conduct in both parties.

NOTES HISTORICAL.

Remarkable Presence and Resolution of Mind
exhibited.

A. D. 1463. Margaret Queen consort of the deposed Henry VI. flying with her son, after the battle of Flexham, into a forest, where she endeavoured to conceal herself, was beset, during the darkness of the night, by robbers, who either ignorant or regardless of her quality, despoiled her of her rings and jewels, and treated her with the utmost indignity. The partition of this rich booty raised a quarrel among them; and while their attention was thus engaged, she took the opportunity of making her escape with her son into the thickest of the forest, where she wandered for some time, over-spent with hunger and fatigue, and sunk with terrors and affliction.

While in this wretched condition, she saw a robber approach with his naked sword; and finding that she had no means of escape, she suddenly embraced the resolution of trusting entirely for protection to his faith and generosity. She ad-

vanced toward him ; and presenting him the young prince, called out to him, *Here, my friend, I commit to your care the safety of your king's son.* The man, whose humanity and generous spirit had been *obscured*, not entirely *lost*, by his vicious course of life, was struck by the singularity of the event ; and, charmed with the confidence reposed in him, he vowed not only to abstain from all injury against the princess, but to devote himself entirely to her safety and protection. By his means she dwelt some time concealed in the forest, and was at last conducted to the sea coast, whence she made her escape into Flanders. She passed thence into her father's court, where she lived several years in privacy and retirement. HUME.

A singular Circumstance in modern Times, copied verbatim from the London Chronicle of Dec. 21, 1786.

That there is sometimes honour among thieves, is proved by the following circumstance, which happened last week :—A lady walking across some fields in the neighbourhood of Islington, observed

two very suspicious looking fellows, who seemed watching an opportunity of robbing her, as they took the same road with herself, and kept at a very little distance from her. Her alarm was increased by observing a fellow, with a similar appearance, in a path-way at a little distance; but as the case did not admit of hesitation, she beckoned him to stop, and addressed him with an air of confidence, "Sir, you look like a gentleman; I do not like the appearance of those fellows behind us, I think they intend to rob me! will you protect me?" — "Madam," replied the man, "I will; take my arm, and I will attend you until you are quite out of danger. You will see, when I wave my handkerchief, that the two men will *sheer off*. They are my companions, and we intended to rob you; but when confidence is reposed in me, I am not scoundrel enough to betray it." He attended until she came in sight of her own house, when she offered him a guinea as a reward for his protection: but he refused it, adding, he hoped he had more *honour* left than to *sink* his character to the level of a *Lawyer's*. *Let the black-robed gentry take fees; I am above it.*

The honourable conduct of both these thieves, in consequence of the confidence reposed in them, bear such a similitude, that it cannot be amiss to place them together. And although the former case may claim greater praise from the high importance of the trust, yet the two incidents may serve to corroborate, what is often asserted, that human nature is the same in every country, and at every period.

The Manner of Sheriffs returns of Elections for Towns to Parliament.

A.D. 1468. Dr. Brady, who seems to have carefully perused and understood the old English writs and charters, makes it out, that down to this time, there were statutes in general enjoining all cities and boroughs, as well as counties of the king's demesne (*i. e.* free burghs) to send up representatives to Parliament; yet the clause in the writs was always general; *i. e.* "Two citizens for ever city, and two burgesses for every burgh."—After all, it was left to the sheriff's judgment to summon such only as could afford it,
and

and to omit such as were poor or mean; and that, when in his return, he usually said, "There are none, or no other cities, or burghs in my county, &c." the meaning always was, none able to send representatives. For in the charters of ancient burghs, there is no clause obliging them to send representatives to Parliament. The Doctor farther observes, that the burghs, during all that time from Henry III. to Edward IV. the space of 250 years, never complained of the sheriffs for not returning them burghs, or for not sending precepts to them, or taking away their birth-right; nor did they clamour against ill usage or injustice. Neither did the kings, lords, or commons in Parliament ever blame, complain of, or question the sheriffs for sending precepts to this or that burgh, or to all, or to any of them, and making returns accordingly. Neither was it then accounted an advantage, honour, or privilege, to be bound to send burgesses to Parliament; but rather, on the contrary, it was reputed a burthen and grievance for poor and small burghs to serve them; as before observed in the historical notes at the end of Edward III.

The alterations are such, in the eighteenth century, that the daily pay of four shillings to mem-

bers of parliament for cities and burghs is not only discontinued; but the honours, privileges, emoluments, &c. &c. to be obtained by our modern representatives, are such, that sometimes incredible large sums are spent at a contested election, to obtain a seat in the house.

Value of the Purchase of Land.

A. D. 1470. The king offered, by proclamation, a reward of 1000*l.* or 100*l.* a year in land, to any that would seize on, and bring to him, George duke of Clarence, his brother, or Richard earl of Warwick, who had plotted the restoration of Henry VI.

From which we may conclude, that land was then sold for about ten years purchase.

Clarence fell a victim to his intrigues, anno 1479; and the only favour which the king granted his brother, after his condemnation, was to leave him the choice of his death; and he was privately drowned in a but of Malmsey Wine in the Tower;—Hume adds, “A whimsical choice, which implies, that he had an extraordinary
“ passion

“passion for that liquor.” We may add also, it implies a criminal sensuality, of passing that awful period, and entering upon eternity, in so beastly an enjoyment;

Henry VIth's Allowance when a Prisoner in the Tower.

A.D. 1470. The allowance for maintaining the unfortunate captive Henry VI. and ten persons waiting on him for fourteen days, was only 4l. 5s. which is not quite 8s. per diem, for the King and his attendants; and that the king's own diet, for two days, in the Tower, cost but 3s. 10d. or rs. 11d. per day: a sum not sufficient to regale the appetite of a common lacquey at dinner, according to the custom of eating in modern days.

N.B. Money at this period was, in weight, as 1 to 1 $\frac{1}{4}$; and provisions about 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ times cheaper than at present.

Coinage.

A. D. 1473. King Edward granted a licence to the bishop of Durham; he and his predecessors (says the record) having, from time immemorial, been in use to coin pence or sterlings, but not halfpence till now.

We should observe, that halfpence, as well as pence, were now, and for a considerable time after, only of silver.

A. D. 1477. A law was passed for paving the streets of Canterbury, Southampton, Taunton and Cirencester.

Expence of the King's Household.

A. D. 1482. This year was settled an annual sum, out of the Customs and other Revenues, of eleven thousand pounds, for the support of the King's household.

Sumptuary

Sumptuary Law.

A sumptuary law was made by Parliament this year, directing what kind of apparel may be worn, and what shall be prohibited, by the various ranks and degrees of persons; namely, "that none under the estate of a lord (excepting persons particularly named) shall wear any gown or mantle, unless it be of such a length only that (he standing upright) it should cover his middle."

Also, that no ribbons, laces, corsets, girdles, callisilk, or colleinsilk twined, shall be imported or worn, under forfeiture thereof, or their value. This, probably, to encourage our own manufactories.

Also, that no person shall full or thicken any hats, bonnets, or caps, at any fulling mill, nor set to sale any so fulled, upon pain of forfeiture of 40s.

Manners and Dress of the French at this Period.

Mathieu, in the History of the Life of Louis XI. observes, that there was to be seen in his time,
in

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in the house of a counsellor of state, the bed wherein the king slept, being of yellow and carnation damask, without any lace. And Bodin, another historian, observes, that this king wore a greasy hat, and the coarsest cloth. In the Chamber of Accompts was found an article of his expences, which mentions two sols for a new pair of sleeves to an old doublet ; and a denier and a half for a box of grease for his boots.

Not so the common people, contrary to the example of their king, who even then, as well as since, have the character of a vain and frippery people in their manner of dress : for that, at the convention of the estates of France, about this time, held at Tours, there was not a fidler, groom of the chamber, barber, nor soldier, but wore silk ; and that they had collars or rings of gold on their fingers.

EDWARD V.

IMMEDIATELY after the death of the fourth Edward, his son was proclaimed king of England, by the name of Edward V. though that young prince was but just turned of twelve years of age, never received the crown, nor exercised any function of royalty; so that the interval between the death of his father, and the usurpation of his uncle, the duke of Gloucester, afterwards Richard III. was properly an interregnum, during which, the uncle took his measures for wresting the crown from his nephew.

RICHARD

RICHARD III.

CHARACTER OF RICHARD III.

THOSE historians who favour Richard, for even *He* has met partizans among later writers, maintain that he was well qualified for government, had he legally obtained it; and that he committed no crimes but such as were necessary to procure him possession of the crown: but this is a very poor apology, when it is confessed, that he was ready to commit the most horrid crimes which appeared necessary for that purpose; and it is certain that all his courage and capacity, qualities in which he really seems not to have been deficient, would never have made compensation to the people, for the danger of the precedent,

cedent, and for the contagious example of vice and murder, exalted upon the throne. This prince was of small stature, hump-backed, and had a very harsh disagreeable visage; so that his body was in every particular no less deformed than his mind.

HUME.

ANOTHER CHARACTER OF
RICHARD III.

Such was the end * of Richard III. the most cruel, unrelenting tyrant, that ever sat on the throne of England. He seems to have been an utter stranger to the softer motions of the human heart, and entirely destitute of every social enjoyment. His ruling passion was ambition; for the gratification of

* Slain at the battle of Bosworth.

which

which he trampled upon every law, both human and divine; but this thirst of dominion was unattended with the least work of generosity, or any desire of rendering himself agreeable to his fellow creatures: it was the ambition of a savage, not of a prince; for he was a solitary king, altogether detached from the rest of mankind, and incapable of that satisfaction which results from private friendship and disinterested society. We must acknowledge, however, that after his accession to the throne, his administration in general was conducted by the rules of justice; that he enacted salutary laws, and established wise regulations; and that, if his reign had been protracted, he might have proved an excellent king to the English nation. He was dark, silent, and reserved, and so much master of dissimulation, that it was almost impossible to dive into his
real

real sentiments, when he wanted to conceal his designs. His stature was small, his aspect cloudy, severe and forbidding: one of his arms was withered, and one shoulder higher than another, from which circumstance of deformity he acquired the epithet of Crook-backed.

SMOLLETT.

OBSER-

OBSERVATIONS ON THE CHARACTER OF
RICHARD III.

There appears some little difference in the character given of this prince by these two historians ; or rather, from the asperity of language which one of them adopts, that his opinion of this character had been formed from seeing the *Richard* of our great *Dramatist* represented on the stage, by the late English *Roscus*. The same author allows, “ That after his succession to the throne, “ his administration in general was conducted by the rules of prudence.”

There is a publication, under the title of *Historic Doubts*, which sets forth the character and person of this prince in very different colours. But this production is, by some, supposed to be a
fally

sally of sportive imagination, in which the Honourable Writer intended only to try how far he could impose on the credulity of the people, by the plausibility of the story; the truth of which observation belongs not to us to determine. The work alluded to is an elegant performance; and we can hardly imagine so much ingenuity should be displayed so wantonly.

From the untimely fate which befell Richard, we should learn to moderate unwarranted ambition. "His ruling passion was ambition, for the gratification of which he trampled upon every law both human and divine."

This quality, when it has the principle of justice for its *basis*, becomes ennobled into a MORAL VIRTUE; and laudable have been the exploits of many, when stimulated by its sacred influence to act in the service of their country;
or,

or, what is a great principle to action, to serve themselves. It is this, in part, which urges, conducts, and supports the Hero, the Poet, Philosopher, to active energy, enables them to encounter dangers, overcome difficulties, reap glory and immortality.

But the subject itself, and our design in this work, points out to consider it under another view; not its good effects when properly directed by a *good motive*; but its baleful influence on common life, and especially upon youth, when ambitious of appearing under such semblance as is unbecoming their stations, and the character they ought to maintain in life.

That, that ambition which the minds of youth are too usually bent upon obtaining, are the pleasures of this world, in the various forms of her alluring aspect; riches to purchase them, and the splendour

splendour of dress to gain admiration in the pursuit.

On the subject of pleasure, it may be urged, that in this *vale of sorrows*, where the best of us have our troubles, in which we are continually harrassed with so many vexations and disappointments, it may surely be justifiable to court this coy Lady, whenever we can meet with her ; and when we are so fortunate as to obtain her smiles, by their influence to sooth and alleviate the burdens of life.

The proposition may be just ; but the conclusion has need of explanation.

It is the abuse of Pleasure, my young friends, we would warn you against, and the errors you may be led into by seeking it where it will not be found ; or endeavouring to imitate those practised in high life, whereby you may be drawn into expences above what you are well able to bear ; and, after all, are such

pitiful

pitiful imitations ; that, instead of accomplishing the end, only procure to yourself ridicule and disappointment.

There is *one* passion, which originates from an undue thirst after wealth, and which seems the predominant vice of the age ; probably owing to the sanction of Government, in its annual distribution of prizes through the wheel of fortune at Guildhall. Be this as it may, this phrenzy and lust after gaming has spread itself through all ranks and conditions of people.

We cannot illustrate this subject better than by quoting a passage from a late celebrated publication, which, for the elegant simplicity of its language, and important truths delivered, merits the attention of every reader, and which we have the liberty to quote.

“ And such of you more especially
 “ as are just setting out into life, full
 “ of those high spirits and gay imagi-
 “ nations

“ nations which youth, and rank, and
“ affluence, naturally inspire ; beware of
“ giving way to that feverish thirst of
“ pleasure, which will render all your
“ great advantages useless, and totally
“ defeat every grand purpose of your
“ creation.”

“ Many, I know, would persuadethem-
“ selves and others, that there can be no
“ real harm, where there is no actual
“ vice ; and that, provided they step not
“ over the bounds of virtue, they can-
“ not be guilty of an excess of pleasure.

“ But, is it true, in the first place,
“ that the man of gaiety never *does* step
“ over the bounds of virtue ? Are all
“ those things which go under the name
“ of amusements, as perfectly innocent
“ as they are generally represented to be ?
“ Is there not *one* diversion at least, as it
“ is called, and one so predominant in the
“ higher ranks of life, that it has swal-

“lowed up almost every other, which is
 “big with the most fatal mischief? A
 “diversion which, so far different from
 “the common run of amusements, has
 “no foundation in our natural appetites;
 “no charms to captivate the fancy or
 “the understanding; nothing to make
 “glad the heart of man, to give him a
 “cheerful countenance, and refresh him
 “after the cares and fatigues of duty;
 “but runs counter to reason, sense, and
 “nature; defeats all the purposes of
 “amusement, sinks the spirits, instead
 “of raising them; sours the temper, in-
 “stead of improving it; and, when it is
 “carried to its utmost length, takes such
 “entire and absolute possession of the
 “soul, as to shut out every other con-
 “cern, both of God and man; extin-
 “guishing every generous sentiment,
 “excites the most malignant passions,
 “brings distress, sometimes ruin, upon
 “its

“ its wretched votaries, their families,
“ friends, and dependents; tempts
“ them to use unfair, or mean oppressive
“ methods of retrieving their affairs;
“ and, sometimes, to conclude the dismal
“ scene by the last fatal act of despera-
“ tion. I do not say that *gaming* always
“ produces these effects; or that it is to
“ all persons, in all circumstances, and
“ all its various degrees, pernicious and
“ unlawful. But it has always a *natural*
“ *tendency* to these effects; it always ex-
“ poses us to danger, and can never be
“ ranked among our innocent amuse-
“ ments. Yet, as such, it is every day
“ more and more pursued; nay, has even
“ appropriated to itself the name of *play*;
“ for what reason I know not, unless to play
“ with our lives and fortunes, with happi-
“ nefs temporal and eternal, be the most
“ delectable of human enjoyments*.”

* The Right Rev. Dr. Porteus, Lord Bishop
of Chester's Sermon.

Under the head of dress, it may be observed, that the ambition of appearing *fine*, has so diffused its contagion amongst the lower class, that the order of things, in this respect, seems almost inverted : those of higher rank leaving to the commonalty the enjoyment of fluttering in the shew of gaudy attire ; whilst the former, except on public occasions, only distinguish themselves in plain simplicity of dress, graced by superior *address*. — In short, there is a becoming chastity in dress, as well as conduct ; and to be over-ambitious of appearing the first in the fashionable *cut* of the robe, or *colour* of the silk, are too trivial matters to disturb the peace of a rational mind.

There is one species of refinement introduced, and but too universally practised among the fashionable class, and which, no doubt, since it is the fashion, will soon become more extensively
practised ;

practised; which should not escape our animadversion.—This *artifice*, or work of art, seems to have been copied from our continental neighbours, whose levities, though we affect to *despise*, we are yet but too apt to imitate.

How amiable are these creatures of thy work, gracious Giver of Life ! when blooming in health, and blushing in their native charms, unaffected, unaided, undefaced, animated only by the virgin tint of modesty ! How different, when glaring with the varnish of some costly preparation—when, if approached nearer, are detected under this shew of false colours—and if approached *nearer* still—dispensing to those faculties which are capable of the sensation, *odours* not the most fragrant. We forbear further comparison, and beg leave to drop the odious subject.

NOTES HISTORICAL.

Lord Privy Seal's Salary.

A. D. 1483. Richard III. appointed John Gunthorp, a clergyman, to be keeper of his privy seal, with a salary of 20s. a day, payable out of the Customs of the following ports, viz.

From Sandwich	66	13	4
Poole —	60	0	0
Bristol —	120	0	0
Southampton	100	0	0
Bridgewater	18	6	8
	<hr/>		
	£365	0	0
	<hr/>		

NB. Liverpool is never mentioned, as a port worthy of notice at this period.

Curious

Curious extract, from the 9th act of parliament of the first year of Richard III, relative to foreigners, who still held possession of the foreign commerce of England, with their manner of living at that time in England.

“ That whereas merchants, strangers, of
“ the following nations (recited) do in great
“ numbers, keep houses in London, and other
“ cities and burghs, taking warehouses and cellars for the merchandize they import, and
“ where they deceitfully pack, mingle, and keep
“ their said merchandize till their prices greatly
“ advance. And they likewise buy here our native commodities, and sell them again at their
“ pleasure ; and do not employ a great part of
“ the money coming thereof upon the commodities of this realm, but make it over-sea to divers other countries, to the king’s great loss
“ in his customs, and the impoverishment of his subjects.

“ And the said Italian and other merchant
“ strangers be *Hofls*, and take to them people of
“ other nations, and be with them daily, and do
“ buy

“ buy and sell, and make secret bargains with
 “ them—And do buy, in divers places of this
 “ realm, great quantities of wool, woollen cloth,
 “ and other merchandize of the king’s subjects,
 “ part of which they sell again here!” (terrible
 crimes !)

“ And great numbers of artificers, and other
 “ strangers, with their families, daily resort to
 “ the city of London, and other cities and towns,
 “ much more than they were wont to do in times
 “ past; and, instead of laborious occupations,
 “ such as going to plow, &c. do use the making
 “ of cloth, and other easy occupations; and
 “ do also bring from beyond sea great quantities
 “ of wares to fairs, markets, &c. at their plea-
 “ sure, and sell them by retail as well as other-
 “ wise, to the great impoverishment of the king’s
 “ subjects. Neither will they take any of the
 “ king’s subjects to work with them, but only
 “ people born in their own country, whereby the
 “ king’s subjects fall into idleness and be thieves,
 “ beggars, vagabonds, &c.; and when those fo-
 “ reigners have gained in this realm great sub-
 “ stance, they withdraw with the same out of
 “ the realm to foreign parts, as they please, and
 “ there

“ there spend that substance oft-times amongst the
“ king’s adversaries, &c.”

Wherefore it is now enacted, 1. “ That all
“ Italian merchants, who are not denizens, shall
“ only sell their merchandize in gros, and not by
“ retail, to the king’s subjects, within eight months
“ after their importation, and in the ports they ar-
“ rive at; and, within the said time, shall lay out
“ the money in English commodities, and in no
“ wise to make over such money by exchange. But
“ if they cannot sell all their wares within the said
“ term of eight months, then what shall remain
“ unfold shall be carried beyond sea again within
“ two months more.

2. “ No merchant-stranger shall be *Hof* to
“ another merchant stranger, unless he be of the
“ same nation.

3. “ Neither shall they sell or barter any
“ wool or woollen cloth, or other English mer-
“ chandize, in the realm, which they shall have
“ first bought here, but shall carry them beyond
“ sea, through the Streights of Morocco.

4. “ No Alien shall hereafter be a master
“ handicraftsman in England; but such of them
“ as be skilled therein, may be servants to English
“ master-handicraftsmen, or else depart the realm..

H 5.

5. “ Neither

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5. " Neither shall they make any cloth ; nor
" put any wool to work, to make cloth.

6. " Neither shall any foreign handicraftsmen
" now in the realm, hereafter take any but Eng-
" lish apprentices, or other servants to work with
" him, unless it be his son or daughter.

7. " Yet Aliens may import books, either written
" or printed, and sell the same here by retail and
" may reside within this realm for the exercise of
" printing of books, &c."

Goods prohibited.

It was enacted, that no merchants (strangers) should import to the detriment of his king's subjects, for sale ; any manner of girdles, or harneys, wrought for girdles, points, leather laces, purses, pouches, pins, gloves, knives, hangers, taylor's shears, scissars, hand-iorns, cupboards, tongs, fire-forks, gridirons, stock-locks, keys, hinges, and garnets, spurs, painted glasses, painted papers, painted forcers, painted images, painted clothes, beaten gold, and beaten silver wrought in paper for painters, saddles, saddletrees, horse harness, boots, bits, stirrups, buckler chains, latter

latter nails with iron shanks, turners hanging candlesticks, holy-water fops, chaffing dishes, hanging-lavers, curtain rings, wool-cords, rean-cord, (except clasps for garments) buckles for shoes, shears, broaches for spits, bells, hawk-bells, tin and leaden spoons, wire of latten and iron, iron candlesticks, grates, horns for lanterns, &c. &c.

REMARK.

It is curious to observe, the difference of opinion, progress of the arts, the state of commerce and manufactories, at different periods.

HENRY VII.

CHARACTER OF HENRY VII.

THE reign of Henry VII. was in the main fortunate for his people at home, and honourable abroad. He put an end to the civil wars with which the nation had been so long harrassed, he maintained peace and order to the state, he depressed the former exorbitant power of the nobility, and, together with the friendship of some foreign princes, he acquired the consideration and regard of all.

He loved peace, without fearing war ; though agitated with criminal suspicions of his servants and ministers, he discovered no timidity, either in the conduct
of

of his affairs, or in the day of battle ; and though often severe in his punishments, he was commonly less actuated by revenge than by the maxims of policy.

The services which he rendered his people, were derived from his views of private interest, rather than the motives of public spirit ; and where he deviated from selfish regards, it was unknown to himself, and ever from malignant prejudices, or the mean projects of avarice ; not from the sallies of passion, or allurements of pleasure ; still less from the benign motives of friendship and generosity.

His capacity was excellent, but somewhat contracted by the narrowness of his heart ; he possessed insinuation and address, - but never employed these talents except some great point of interest was to be gained ; and while he neglected to

conciliate the affections of his people, he often felt the danger of resting his authority on their fear and reverence alone. He was always extremely attentive to his affairs ; but possessed not the faculty of seeing far into futurity ; and was more expert at promoting a remedy for his mistakes, than judicious in avoiding them. Avarice was on the whole his ruling passion ; and he remained an instance almost singular, of a man placed in a high station, and possessed of talents for great affairs, in whom that passion predominated above ambition. Even among private persons, avarice is nothing but a species of ambition, and is chiefly incited by the prospect of that regard, distinction, and consideration, which attends on riches.

HUME.

Died April 12th, 1509, aged 52, having reigned 23 years.

ANOTHER

ANOTHER CHARACTER OF HENRY VII.

Henry was tall, straight, and well-shaped, though slender; of a grave aspect, and saturnine complexion; austere in his dress, and reserved in conversation, except when he had a favourite point to carry; and then he would fawn, flatter, and practise all the arts of insinuation. He inherited a natural fund of sagacity, which was improved by study and experience; nor was he deficient in personal bravery and political courage. He was cool, close, cunning, dark, distrustful, and designing; and of all the princes who had sat on the English throne, the most fordid, selfish, and ignoble. He possessed in a peculiar manner

ner the art of turning all his domestic troubles, and all his foreign disputes, to his own advantage: hence he acquired the appellation of the English Solomon; and all the powers of the continent courted his alliance, on account of his wealth, wisdom, and uninterrupted prosperity.

The nobility he excluded intirely from the administration of public affairs, and employed clergymen and lawyers, who, as they had no interest in the nation, and depended entirely upon his favour, were more obsequious to his will, and ready to concur in all his arbitrary measures. At the same time, it must be owned, he was a wise legislator; chaste, temperate, and assiduous in the exercise of religious duties; decent in his deportment, and exact in the administration of justice, when his private interest was not concerned; though

though he frequently used religion and justice as cloaks for perfidy and oppression. His soul was continually actuated by two ruling passions, equally base and unkingly, namely, the fear of losing his crown, and the desire of amassing riches : and these motives influenced his whole conduct. Nevertheless, his apprehension and avarice redounded on the whole to the advantage of the nation. The first induced him to depress the nobility, and abolish the feudal tenures, which rendered them equally formidable to the prince and people ; and his avarice prompted him to encourage industry and trade, because it improved his customs, and enriched his subjects, whom he could afterwards pillage at discretion.

SMOLLETT.

OBSER-

OBSERVATIONS ON THE CHARACTER OF HENRY VII.

In the above quoted characters of this prince, we have more distinct features presented; a *manner* preserved, as if the materials were not altogether drawn from fancy.

This opinion is corroborated from history, which informs us, that from this date, “writers have surer grounds, “on which they establish their narrations.”

The most substantial of which, we may suppose, was the art of Printing, invented about 1430, and introduced into this kingdom some time after; of which due notice was taken in the historical notes to Henry the Fourth. Which invention,

vention was soon widely diffused, and by its effects the improvements of other arts were greatly facilitated.

“ From hence, then, commences the useful, as well as the most agreeable part of modern annals; certainty has place in all the considerable and even most minute parts of historical narration. The variety of events preserved by Printing give the author the power of selecting, as well as adorning, the facts which he relates; and as every incident has some relation to present manner or situations, instructive lessons recur in every page, during the course of the narrative.”

“ Whoever carries his researches into preceding periods, is moved by curiosity, liberal indeed and commendable; not by any necessity for acquiring a knowledge

knowledge of public affairs, or the arts of civil government."

The *Characteristics* of Henry VII, according to the united opinion of the two historians, seems to have been AVARICE—"Avarice was on the whole his ruling passion," (says Hume.)

"His soul was actuated continually by two ruling passions, equally base and unkingly, namely the fear of losing his crown, and the desire of amassing riches," (says Smollett.)

As this passion seldom gains admission in the early period of life, there is less occasion to offer cautions or reproofs against this *unquenchable desire* *, to those whom our observations are particularly addressed — the rising generation. — A careless extravagance, if not a wanton

* Crescit amor nummi, quantum ipsa pecunia crescit.

profusion,

profusion, but too often is the characteristic of youth.

And if the seeds of avarice should exist in this stage of life; their growth is seldom distinguished by any signs of austerities and hardiness; till age has blunted, and rendered more callous the finer feelings of sensibility.

Of this passion Hume further observes, "That among private persons Avarice is nothing but a species of ambition, and is chiefly incited by the prospect of that regard, distinction, and consideration, which attends on riches."

Flattering motives, to be sure, to such that have (and who has not?) a "*species of ambition*." But we would wish to recommend, as more worthy the consideration of youth, that *monumentum perennius ære*, if they are searchers after "*regard, distinction,*

inction, &c." Let them seek it in surer roads, upon a firmer basis.

Suppose, for example an adventurer from the East, or from the West, retiring to enjoy the quickly accumulated possessions of thousands upon thousands.

What though the wealth and luxuries of both the Indies unite to aggrandize the equipage, to load the table, to embellish the mansion of an individual;—yet what regard have these superfluities purchased?—Even contempt, from an host of over-pampered menials. What distinction have these riches obtained? Even this, of living an insulated being—too rich, to be respected—too distinct, to be cordially distinguished.

Who would not then rather be distinguished in life, and after life ceases, with the regard paid to the memory of a New-

ton, a Brindley, a Howard, or a Cook ;
cum multis aliis ? men, whose birth was
not graced by title ; men, whose distinc-
tion was not purchased by riches—their
deeds have ennobled their characters—
have immortalized their names !

Grant that the avaricious man may
hope to obtain distinction by the influ-
ence of his wealth ; yet his poverty of
spirit, displayed in every link of the
chain of social connexion, will still with-
hold from him that cordial *regard*, *dis-*
tinction, and *consideration*, which will be
cheerfully paid to him *who is rich in*
good works, and who is willing to assist
his friend in the time of need. “ And
“ though silver and gold he may have
“ none,” his benevolence of heart, dis-
played in the practice of social affec-
tion when friendship is put to the test,
will,

will, upon trial, be found of no small value.

The inference we would draw is, that whatever youth, incited by the hope of obtaining "that regard, &c." should by mistake make riches the basis on which his ambition may be gratified—Let such a one consider, that to obtain a competency is worthy the consideration of every wise man : But that, if his income much exceed the plan of living now practised, and intended to be pursued ; the superabundance creates only care and anxiety, and therefore the acquisition is only a *vain show* : but that, to obtain an everlasting and more illustrious DISTINCTION, a more glorious monument may be erected upon the firmer basis of INTEGRITY ; with a column and foliage decorated by records of actions, exerted in the cause of HUMANITY.

There

There are two extraordinary events recorded during this reign, which strongly mark that credulity, fickleness, and propensity to change, which the common people of every age have been but too prone to manifest.

There lived in Oxford one Richard Simon, a priest, who possessed some subtilty, and still more boldness and temerity. This man had entertained a design of disturbing Henry's government, by raising up a pretender to the crown, and for that purpose he cast his eyes upon one Lambert Simnel, a youth of fifteen years of age, who was son of a baker, and who, being endued with understanding above his years, and address above his condition, seemed well fitted to personate a prince of royal extraction. A report had been spread among the

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people (and received with great avidity), that Richard, duke of York, and second son to Edward IV, had by a secret escape saved himself from his uncle's severity, and lay somewhere concealed in England. Simon, taking advantage of this rumour, had at first instructed his pupil to take the name, which he found so fondly cherished by the people. But hearing afterwards, that Warwick had made his escape from the Tower, and observing, that this news was attended with no less general satisfaction, he changed his plan of imposture, and made Simmel personate *that* unfortunate prince, which he was equally expert at. Simon chose Ireland, wherein to exhibit the first scene of his transactions; because that Ireland was zealously attached to the house of York; and bore an affectionate regard to the memory of Clarence,

rence, Warwick's father, who had been their lieutenant, and was improvidently allowed by the king to remain in the same condition in which he found it; and all the counsellors and officers who had been appointed by his predecessor, remained in their authority. No sooner did Simnel present himself to Thomas Fitzgerald, earl of Kildare, the deputy, and claim his protection, as the unfortunate Warwick, than that credulous nobleman, not suspecting so bold a fiction, lent attention to him, and began to consult some persons of rank with regard to this extraordinary incident, which favoured their natural propensity; they paid the pretended prince, Attendance, as their sovereign; lodged him in the castle of Dublin, crowned him with a diadem taken from the statue of the virgin, and

publicly proclaimed him king, under the appellation of Edward VI.

This Simnel was afterwards taken prisoner at the battle of Stoke, in the county of Nottingham, and was pardoned; being too contemptible to excite apprehension or resentment in Henry, who made him a scullion in his kitchen, whence he afterwards advanced him to the rank of Falconer.

The other event, which we shall abridge from Hume, was as follows :

The dutchess dowager of Burgundy, full of resentment for the successor of her family, and its partizans, caused a similar attempt to be set on foot again about six years afterwards ; by taking under her protection one Perkin Warbeck,

beck, the son of John Osbeck, and Catherine de la Jore. Warbeck was born in England, and spoke his native language very well. He was handsome, well-shaped, and had a noble air, which commanded respect; and thus he was imposed upon the people, to suppose him Richard, duke of York, brother to Edward V, who had escaped the vengeance of Richard III, his uncle. Warbeck waited upon the dutchess in Flanders, who first pretended not to know him, but afterwards patronized him, and declared publicly he was the true duke of York, treated him as her nephew, and enabled him to make a descent in Kent, and another in Ireland. But Perkin, not succeeding, went into Scotland, where he was received honourably by James IV, who gave him Catherine Gordon, daughter to the earl

of Huntley, one of his relations, in marriage; and took him twice into England at the head of an army, but without success. After giving Henry much trouble, the king caused him to be hanged, after having attempted to escape out of the Tower, wherein he had been imprisoned.

The use we would infer from the above events, is,

- That, of all matters, state affairs in general seem but ill calculated for the interference of people in common life; notwithstanding we so frequently hear the rude politician standing up the steady champion of his country, stoutly defending the acts of his favourite minister, known to him only by name, and that through the channel of a Weekly Advertiser; insomuch, that his great concern for the public weal, causes no small

small neglect of his private welfare. And but too like *Quidnunc* in the play, who, on reading his name in the Gazette, exclaims, "Of what consequence to me
 "are my own affairs, compared with
 "my concern for the good of my na-
 "tion!"

But too many, like this play politician, *Quidnunc*, not only lost their *all*, but their *lives* also fell a sacrifice in intermeddling with, and supporting, the claims of Simnel and Warbeck.

Walpole seems clearly of opinion; that, though Simnel was an impostor, Warbeck was the real duke of York. And he supports this opinion by so many strong arguments; that few, it is imagined, can read them without becoming a convert to the tenets of the historian.

HISTORIC DOUBTS.

NOTES HISTORICAL.

A. D. 1492. In the month of August, in this year, a little before-sun set, it was, that Christopher Columbus, a Florentine, set out from Cadiz in Spain, on his memorable voyage for the discovery of the Western World.

This event has been attended with the most important consequences to all the nations of Europe — The enlargement of commerce and navigation have increased industry, and improved the arts; men of inferior rank have become purchasers of land, and created to themselves property of a new kind in stock, commodities, art, credit, and correspondence.

It was by accident only that Henry had not the honour of equipping Columbus; who, after many repulses to his project, from the courts of Portugal and Spain, sent his brother over to England to crave his protection. Henry invited him
to

to his court ; but the brother, in returning, being taken by pirates, was detained in his voyage ; and Columbus, in the mean while, having obtained the countenance of Isabella, was supplied with a fleet only of three ships, and happily executed his enterprize.

Henry afterwards fitted out Sebastian Cabot, a Venetian dwelling in Bristol, and sent him Westward in the year 1498, who discovered the mainland of America, towards the sixtieth degree of Northern latitude. The king expended fourteen thousand pounds in building one ship, called the GREAT HARRY. This was properly the first ship in the English navy.

Although Spain obtained the object of her wish, by gaining possession of the rich mines of Peru and Mexico ; yet these treasures have by no means enriched their country. For Spain having little product, and less manufacture of her own, can by no means keep these riches to herself, but is obliged to disperse them through the more industrious nations of Europe, to purchase their own wants, and that of their colonies in America, who are supplied from the manufacturing provinces, where these riches at last centre. It is generally believed, that it would have been hap-

pier for Spain, never to have had any possessions in America, unless she had attended to the manufactories, by which means alone, she could have kept more of the precious metals to herself, not only for the support of her own artificers; but also those manufactories would, by a necessary increase of people, have contributed to make up the loss of the native Spaniards emigrating to America.

It has been computed, that soon after the planting of Mexico and Peru, the money of Europe became doubled in quantity, to what it was before. The price of goods, therefore, also advanced in proportion; and this advanced price, drained the specie still from Spain. Montesquieu is of opinion, that by this influx of wealth, the current coin of Europe within the space of 200 years, has been five times doubled. But we should not fail to remark, that a very great part of the silver annually brought from America, has been every year sent to the East Indies, from whence no part of it, ever returns again to Europe.

First Statute Law made for impotent Beggars!

A.D. 1469. In the 11th year of Henry VII. Cap. 2d. it was enacted, "That every beggar, not able to work, shall resort to the hundred where he last dwelt, is best known, or was born; and shall there remain upon pain of being set in the stocks three days and three nights, with only bread and water, and then shall be put out of town." A poor provision for impotent people.—And notwithstanding these laws have been frequently revised and amended, and in our days, very considerable sums are annually expended in providing for, and maintaining the poor, yet they are still defective. For although the burdens born by the public for their support be great, yet the provision made to assist the wants of the aged and infirm, in the time of need, is not so efficient and comfortable as might be wished. And it may be observed that the poor of those days had resources in their necessity, which present times do not admit.

ries and monasteries then abounded almost every where, who had good fires, and warm kitchens, which, with the offal from their tables, were liberally offered to these poor wanderers.

Before the Reformation there were no poor rates; the charitable doles given at religious houses, and church ale in every parish, did the business. In every parish there was a church-house, to which belonged spits, pots, crocks, &c. for dressing provision. Here the house-keepers met, and were merry, and gave their charity. The young people came there too, and had dancing, bowling, shooting butts, &c. There were few or no alms-houses before the time of king Henry the VIIIth. that at Oxford opposite Christ church, is one of the most ancient in England. In every church was a poor-man's box, and the like at great inns. ANTIQUARIAN REPERTORY.

Shillings first coined in England.

A.D. 1505. In the 20th year of King Henry VII. a few silver shillings, or twelve pences, were coined, being about $1\frac{1}{2}$ the size of the modern shilling,

4.

shilling, or forty out of a pound weight of silver, fair and broad pieces.—It was before observed that the way of reckoning by pounds, marks, and shillings, as well as by pence and farthings, or farthings, had been in constant use, even in the Saxon times, before the Northern Conquest; yet, there never was such a coin in England, as either a pound or a mark, or any shilling, till the year 1505, these three being merely ideal money, or only denominations or ways of reckoning for convenience.

HENRY

HENRY VIII.

CHARACTER OF HENRY VIII.

It is difficult to give a just summary of this prince's qualities; he was so different from himself in different parts of his reign, that, as is well remarked by Lord Herbert, his history is his best character and description. The absolute and uncontrouled authority which he maintained at home, and the regard he obtained among foreign nations, are circumstances which entitle him to the appellation of a great prince; while his tyranny, and cruelty, seem to exclude him from the character of a good one.

He

He possessed indeed, great vigour of mind, which qualified him for exercising dominion over men; courage, intrepidity, vigilance, inflexibility; and though these qualities lay not always under the guidance of a regular and solid judgment; they were accompanied with good parts; and an extensive capacity; and every one dreaded a contest with a man who was never known to yield; or to forgive; and who, in every controversy, was determined to ruin himself, or his antagonist.

A catalogue of his vices, would comprehend many of the worst qualities incident to human nature. Violence, cruelty, profusion, rapacity, injustice, obstinacy, arrogance, bigotry, presumption, caprice; but neither was he subject to all these vices in the most extreme degree; nor was he at intervals
alto.

altogether devoid of virtues. He was sincere, open, gallant, liberal, and capable at least of a temporary friendship and attachment. In this respect he was unfortunate, that the incidents of his times served to display his faults in their full light; the treatment he met with from the court of Rome provoked him to violence; the danger of a revolt from his superstitious subjects seemed to require the most extreme severity. But it must at the same time be acknowledged, that his situation tended to throw an additional lustre on what was great and magnanimous in his character.

The emulation between the Emperor and the French King rendered his alliance, notwithstanding his impolitic conduct, of great importance to Europe. The extensive powers of his prerogative, and the submission, not to say slavish disposition.

disposition of his parliament, made it more easy for him to assume and maintain that entire dominion by which his reign is so much distinguished in English history.

It may seem a little extraordinary, that, notwithstanding his cruelty, his extortion, his violence, his arbitrary administration, this prince not only acquired the regard of his subjects, but never was the object of their hatred; he seems even, in some degree, to have possessed their love and affection. His exterior qualities were advantageous, and fit to captivate the multitude; his magnificence, and personal bravery, rendered him illustrious to vulgar eyes; and it may be said with truth, that the English in that age were so thoroughly subdued, that, like eastern slaves, they were inclined to admire even those acts of violence.

violence and tyranny, which were exercised over themselves, and at their own expence.

HUME.

Died January 28, 1547, Anno Ætatis 57, regni 37.

ANOTHER CHARACTER OF HENRY VIII.

Henry VIII. before he became corpulent, was a prince of a goodly personage, and commanding aspect, rather imperious than dignified. He excelled in all the exercises of youth, and possessed a good understanding, which was not much improved by the nature of his education.

Instead

Instead of learning that philosophy which opens the mind, and extends the qualities of the heart, he was confined to the study of gloomy and scholastick disquisitions, which served to cramp his ideas, and pervert the faculty of reason, qualifying him for the disputant of a cloister, rather than the lawgiver of a people. In the first years of his reign, his pride and vanity, seemed to domineer over all his other passions; though from the beginning he was impetuous, headstrong, impatient of contradiction and advice. He was rash, arrogant, prodigal, vain-glorious, pedantic, and superstitious. He delighted in pomp and pageantry, the baubles of a weak mind. His passions soothed by adulation rejected all restraint; and as he was an utter stranger to the finer feelings of the soul, he gratified them at the expence of justice

justice and humanity, without remorse or compunction.

He wrested the supremacy from the bishop of Rome, partly on conscientious motives, and partly from reasons of state and conveniency. He suppressed the monasteries, in order to supply his extravagance with their spoils; but he would not have made those acquisitions, had they not been productive of advantage to his nobility, and agreeable to the nation in general. He was frequently at war; but the greatest conquest he obtained was over his own parliament and people.—Religious disputes had divided them into two factions. As he had it in his power to make either scale preponderate, each courted his favour with the most obsequious submission, and, in trimming the balance, he kept them both
in.

in subjection. In accustoming them to these abject compliances, they degenerated into slaves, and he from their prostitution acquired the most despotic authority. He became rapacious, arbitrary, froward, fretful, and so cruel that he seemed to delight in the blood of his subjects.

He never seemed to betray the least symptoms of tenderness in his disposition; and, as we already observed, his kindness to Cranmer was an inconsistency in his Character. He seemed to live in defiance of censure whether ecclesiastical or secular; he died in apprehension of futurity; and was buried at Windsor, with idle processions and childish pageantry, which in those days passed for real taste and magnificence. SMOLLETT.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE CHARACTER OF
HENRY VIII.

The great advantage, says Livy, arising from the knowledge of history, is, "that there we may see examples of every kind in the clearest light. We have patterns for our imitation, both in our private, and in the administration of our public affairs. We find therein too, such actions as flow from bad principles fatal in their event, and for that reason to be shunned."

It must be confessed, that in the historical character of this prince few qualities can be found worthy the imitation of either elevated rank, or private state.

Henry the VIIIth ascended the throne at an early period of life, under auspicious circumstances, and endued with personal advantages. "He had a goodly personage, and commanding aspect." Of his mental qualities, it is recorded, "he had a good understanding, which was not much improved by education, sincere, open, gallant, liberal."

But, alas ! we find these advantages of body and mind converted to very evil purposes, in his progress through life ; and which we may imagine, in some measure, proceeded from want of an "improved education ;" which *want* has often been fatal to youths in exalted stations, where the passions have been strong, and the powers of gratification great.

We cannot but regret, that the historians of this monarch have not touched
more

more finely the nicer shades of character : whence those peculiarities which he possessed, and so successfully practised on his people, “ by exertions of prerogative beyond any attempt either of his predecessors or successors.”

Hume acknowledges that, “ It may seem a little extraordinary, that, notwithstanding his cruelty, his extortions, his violence, his arbitrary administration, this prince not only acquired the regard of his subjects, but never was the object of their hatred.”—Why not, therefore, investigate these extraordinary effects a little more accurately, and, since they are out of the common course of nature, try to develop the causes ?

But authors occasionally become too diffuse in their delineation of characters, more especially when describing the qualities

qualities of the mind, which may be expressed in such vague and general terms, and without any reason offered why, as to present the reader no specific or prominent feature—As when it is said of Henry, “He was violent, cruel, unjust, rapacious, profuse, proud, arrogant;” these general terms are in so small a degree characteristic, that they may be almost equally applied to any bad man in history.

But we are furthermore informed, that “Henry was impetuous, headstrong, impatient of contradiction and advice.” Here is a lesson well deserving the attention of every one, and more especially of youth, in any situation; for however *necessary* it may be to listen to the voice of instruction, it is with *difficulty* we can command the attention of that giddy age, in the heyday of youth, when the passions are in the height

of flood, rendering them “ impatient
 “ of contradiction and advice.” And
 since self-estimation, when “ headstrong
 “ and impetuous,” is so expert at pal-
 liatives, blames constitutional habit,
 even submits to acknowledge, that they
 are but too apt to be violent in the mo-
 ment of passion ; but when the paroxysm
 is over, that they can easily forgive, nay,
 are sorry for the transgression ; that they
 really cannot help it if they would, and
 therefore in vain for them to struggle
 against impossibility.

Yet every one *may*, and actually *does*,
 restrain his passions to suit occasion.
 “ How impetuous or violent” soever he
 may be when some particular humour
 predominates, when gain or reputation
 is the object of pursuit ; when a com-
 petition for some honourable rank in the
 state is the contest, or the more tender
 passions have caught him in their silken
 bonds ;

bonds; he can then be patient, undergo difficulties, subdue his impetuosity, even submit to rebuke: nay, the established rules of common intercourse and society lay restraints upon the passions and tempers of every one, as terms of admission into company. But *these* having been by continual use rendered so familiar, they become in course little thought of; but since they are *restraints*, and so frequently practised, why not make the victory complete? Let it be remembered, where there is no exertion there can be no virtue; and if the task be hard, the more noble will be the conquest, more glorious the triumph.

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NOTES HISTORICAL.

A. D. 1514. Amount and value of an annuity for great services at this period.

For the life of Dame Jane Guldeforde, widow of Sir Richard, in consideration of her great and faithful services to his father and mother king Henry VII. and queen Elizabeth, to his two sisters the queens of France and Scotland; and to himself, the king grants an annuity of 20 £. per ann.

Form of a manumission or freedom granted in the year 1514, by Henry VIII. to two persons.

“Whereas originally God created all men free,
“but afterwards the laws and customs of nations subjected some under the yoke of servitude; we think it pious and meritorious with
“God, to make certain persons absolutely free
“from servitude, who are at present under vil-
“lenage

“ Tenage to us ; wherefore we do now accord-
 “ ingly manumit and free from the yoke of
 “ servitude Henry Knight, a Taylor, and
 “ John Erle, a Husbandman, our natives (i. e.
 “ our slaves), as being born in our manor of
 “ Stoke Clymmyslande, in our county of Corn-
 “ wall ; together with all their issue born here-
 “ after, or to be born ; and all their goods, chat-
 “ tels, and lands already acquired, or hereafter
 “ to be acquired by them, so as the said two
 “ persons, with their issue, shall henceforth be
 “ deemed by us and our heirs *free*, and of free
 “ condition.”

Difference in the Price of Labour.

The daily pay of a master shipwright at this period was 5d. with diet, and 7d. without diet. A hewer and able clinker was, with diet 4d. without 6d. N. B. During the last war, the earnings of a journeyman ship-carpenter were from 3s. 6d. to 10s. per day.

A remarkable Law.

Much arable land being inclosed and turned to pasture, a law was made in the 4th of Henry VIII. importing, that if any person should *decay* any town, hamlet, or house of husbandry, or convert *tillage* into *pasture land*, the immediate lord of the fee shall have the moiety of the offender's land, until the offence be reformed. Whatever reasons might urge the making of such a law, there seems no doubt but that the study of agriculture was then but little cultivated.

First Map of England.

About this time George Lilly, the son of the famous grammarian, who lived some time at Rome with Cardinal Pole, published the first exact map that ever was till then drawn of this island. The progress made in this kind of knowledge since this period has been great.

Muskets

Muskets.

Hand guns, or muskets, were introduced into the service this year; yet the use of bow and arrows, in war, was not laid aside till near 100 years afterwards.

English Coins.

Gold was ordered to be coined into half angels, value 3s. 4d. each; silver into groats, half groats, pence, and farthings. There is no mention of shillings. This was the last time of coining *silver* farthings, which, from their littleness, must have been liable to be lost, and soon worn out.

Low Rent of Houses.

1524. An ancient grammar-school in Bow-church-yard being decayed, the school-house was let out to rent for only four shillings a year,

K 4

a cellar

a cellar at two shillings ; and two vaults under that church, both for fifteen shillings.

Howel's Londinopolis.

This lowness of rents evidently proves there was then but little wealth in the metropolis, and that the silver of America had not yet circulated ; indeed Peru was only discovered ann. 1524.

Soap.

About this time soap was first made in London ; but it was made at Bristol earlier. The price of soap was at that time about one penny, or a penny farthing, per pound. Soap is a curious invention, and contributes not a little to the comforts of man.

An old distich quoted.

Turkeys *, carps, hops, piccarel, and beer,
Came into England all in one year.

* Mr. Latham is clearly of opinion, that turkeys were introduced into England from America in the year 1524.

Synopsis of Birds, vol. II.

Another

Another under the year 1546.

Hops, reformation, bays, and beer,
Came into England all in one year.

Price of Meat regulated by Law.

A. D. 1533. By an act of 24th of Henry VIII.
Cap. iii. beef, pork, mutton, and veal, were first directed to be sold by weight: and that no person should take above one halfpenny a pound for beef or pork, nor above three farthings for mutton or veal.

The number of butchers in London and its suburbs was then supposed to be about eighty, each of whom, upon an average, killed nine oxen in a week.

Fruit-trees, fallads, &c. introduced into England.

A. D. 1533. The currant tree, or shrub, is supposed to have been introduced about this time into England from Zant, belonging to Venice ;

K 5.

its

its fruit being then called grapes of Corinth. N.B. Hence the name Currants. Also,

Sundry other kinds of fruits and plants were first cultivated in England during this reign, viz. apricots, and a fine gooseberry from Flanders; also fallads, carrots, cabbages, turneps, and other edible roots. These vegetables were before this time imported from Holland and Flanders; so that queen Catherine, when she wanted a fallad, was obliged to dispatch a messenger to fetch them from those countries. The great plenty and variety of these vegetables displayed upon modern tables, through every month in the year, evidently shews what superior blessings we enjoy, in this respect, to our forefathers.

It does not appear that potatoes, that excellent root, were yet introduced among us, from their native soil America.

Parish Registers.

A. D. 1538 Thomas Cromwell, earl of Essex, vicar-general of Henry, ordered, that every incumbent minister in all the parishes in England should

should keep a register of all weddings, christenings, and burials.

This is the first institution of this useful record, and by means of which, much knowledge and interesting evidence has been since obtained, on many important occasions.

Their use might yet be farther extended, namely, by registering the remarkable occurrences relative to the public concerns of the several districts.

Anno 1539. Six hundred forty-three monasteries, ninety colleges, two thousand three hundred and seventy-four chauntries and free chapels, and one hundred and ten hospitals, suppressed in England and Wales.

PINS.

A.D. 1543. By Statute 34 and 35 of Henry VIII. Cap. VI. it was enacted, " That no person shall
" put to sale any pinnes, but only such as shall be
" double-headed, and have the heads foldered
" fast to the shank of the pins, well-smoothed,
" the shank well-shapen, the points well and
" round filed, cauted, and sharpened."

K 6

From

From the above extract, it should appear that the art of pin-making was but of late invention, probably introduced from France; and that our manufactories since this period have wonderfully improved. The present ingenious and expeditious manner of making pins, evidences the progress of art in this useful little article of convenience to the ladies: otherwise their profuse use in the present mode of dress, would be a considerable article of expence.

A. D. 1544. Cheshire, and Chester, first empowered to send members to parliament.

The county palatine of Chester was empowered by act of parliament, granted this year, to send two knights; and the city of Chester two citizens; to represent them in parliament. This being the first time that ever the said county, or the city, had any representatives to sit in parliament. And the county remains in the same situation to this present time; no other towns in that county having the same privilege.

Value of Land.

Two hundred acres of land, namely, 100 of meadow, and one hundred of pasture, at Madingley in Cambridgeshire, are declared, by act of parliament, “to be in the whole of the yearly
“value of ten pounds, and so lett into farm, to
“the use and intent, that the profits thereof
“should be for the fees and wages of the knights
“ (in Parliament) for the county of Cambridge;
“and this land was therefore called the Shire-
“Manor. And was now actually let to John
“Hinde, serjeant at law, for that sum yearly;”
being at 12d. per acre yearly rent. This is a good proof of the value of land at this time.

Northumberland Household-book.

This book is of great use to the Antiquaries, as it contains authentic accounts of the prices of several articles, customs, and manner of living.

We

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We shall select one article from this curious book at full length, and in the language then used, and afterwards some remarks, as there has probably nothing undergone so great a change, as the expence incurred upon this particular subject. The title is,

“ Directions and orders for keeping of my
“ Lords house yearly.”

“ This is the assignment made by me and my
counsaill at Wresill, to Richard Gowge, countrol-
ler of my house, and Thomas Percy clerk of the
kechyng of my said house stondynge charged,
with my said house, which is for the hole expen-
sys and kepyng of my said house for one hole
year, begynnyne on Monday xxx day of Sept. in
the thyrde yere of my sovereign lorde kynge
Henry VIIIth. &c. &c.”

Laundres of Household.

Item to be payd to the said Richard Gowge and
Thomas Percy, for to pay to the Launderes of
household, for the weschynge of all the lynnyn-
stuff belongeing to my house, viz. the chapel, the
ewery,

ewery, the fellor, the pantre, the kichynge, and the warderobe, for the space of one hole yere, by estimacion—xlvijs. viii d. Whereof xjs. viii d. ys appointed to be pay'd to the said Richard Gowge and Thomas Percy, for the first paymentt at Chrystynmas, for to pay for the weschynge of the said lynonn stuff of household, frome Michaelmas last past, unto Cristynmas aforesaid. And xjs. viij d. to be pay'd to theme for the secund paymentt at our Lady day in lenth, to pay for the weschynge of all the said linonn stuff of household, from Cristynmas aforesaid, unto our said Lady day. And xjs. viii d. to be payd unto theme for the thyrde paymentt at Midsomer, for to pay for the weschynge of all the said linonn stuff of household, from our Lady day aforesaid, unto the said Midsomer. And xjs. viii d. to be payd unto theme for the fourth. and last paymentt at Michaelmas, for to pay for the weschynge of all the said linonn stuff of household, from Midsomer aforesaid, unto Michaelmas next after. And so the hole somme for full contentacion of the said weschynge of all the said linonn stuff of household, for one hole yere ys—xlvijs. viii d.

Forty six shillings and eightpence, for washing the linnen of Northumberland-house! Ye males
 3 and

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and females, ye beaux and belles of the eighteenth century, compare the bills of your laundresses with the above account ; and you may perceive, not that we would insinuate their charge is *extravagant*, but that the luxury of the age in this respect is *great*.

Furniture of Rooms, from Leland's Itinerary, taken 1574.

The furniture of the apartments of both these mansions * consisted of nothing but long tables, benches, cupboards, and bedsteads, and contained nothing curious.

“ I shall premise, that the great chamber contained only a long table upon a frame, a cupboard with a door ; and the hall, fix great standing-tables, and fix formes, three cupboards, two doors, neither locks nor keys.”
No sofas, no carpets, in those days.

The Bible first translated into English in this reign, and one ordered to be placed in every church.

* Leckenfield Manor-house, and Wressell Castle.

The

The Reformation begun during this reign.

In the year 1517, Martin Luther of Wittenberg in Germany, a friar of the order of the Hermits (owing, as he said, to the abuse of indulgencies), first began to preach against the authority of the Pope, and to endeavour a reformation in religion. The Council of Trent was convened by Pope Paul the Third, in the year 1542, to repress Luther. This Council, by decreeing many things to be points of faith which were not so before, made no small distraction amongst the Catholics themselves. At the same time with Luther, there arose in the same country other reformers of religion, who, differing from Luther in some points, made that difference which at this day is distinguished by the names of Lutherans and Protestants, which were so first called at Aupsurg in Germany, by the latter making a protestation in defence of their doctrine, hence they obtained the name of PROTESTANTS, which name has since this time been indiscriminately
2 applied

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grefs. Injunctions were issued, commanding all parsons and curates to teach their parishioners the *Pater Noster*, the *Ave*, and *Credo*, with the *Ten Commandments*, and *Articles of the Christian faith*, in the English tongue. Towards the end of this reign, was set forth by the bishops, the book of six articles, condemning all for Hereticks, and to be burnt, that should hold,

1. That the body of Christ was not really present in the sacrament.

2. That the sacrament might not be truly administered under one kind.

3. That the priests entered into holy orders might marry.

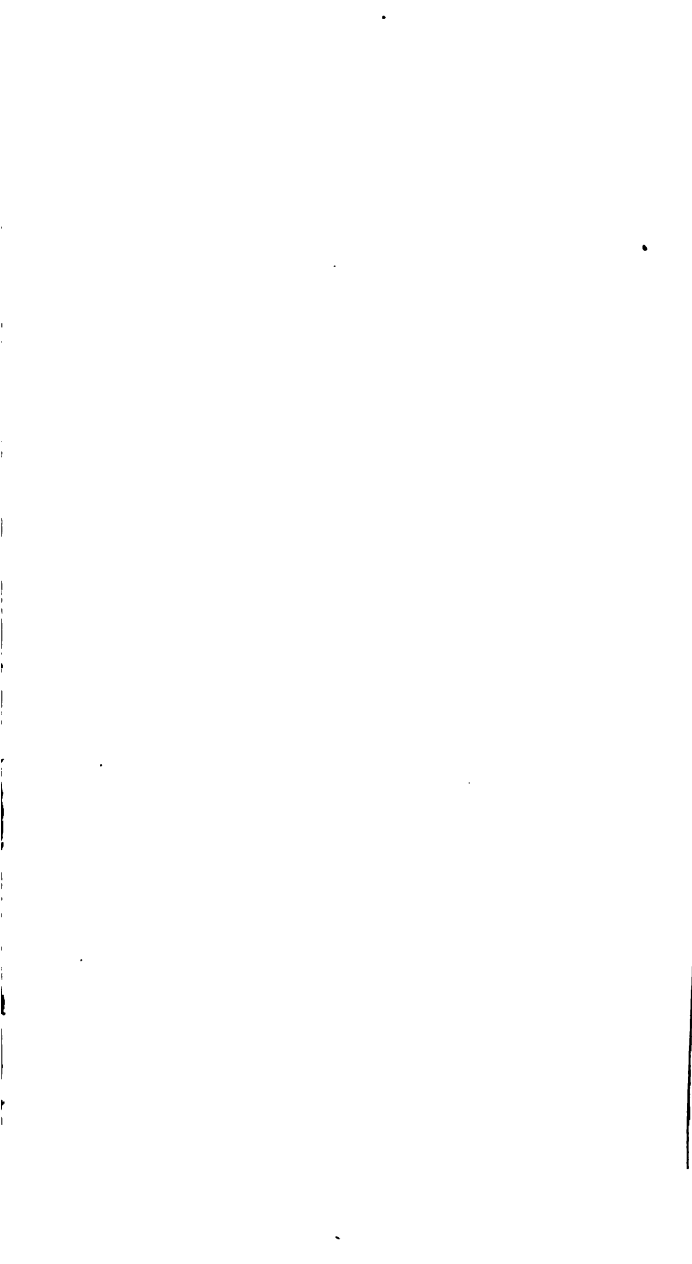
4. That vows of chastity entered into upon mature deliberation were not to be kept.

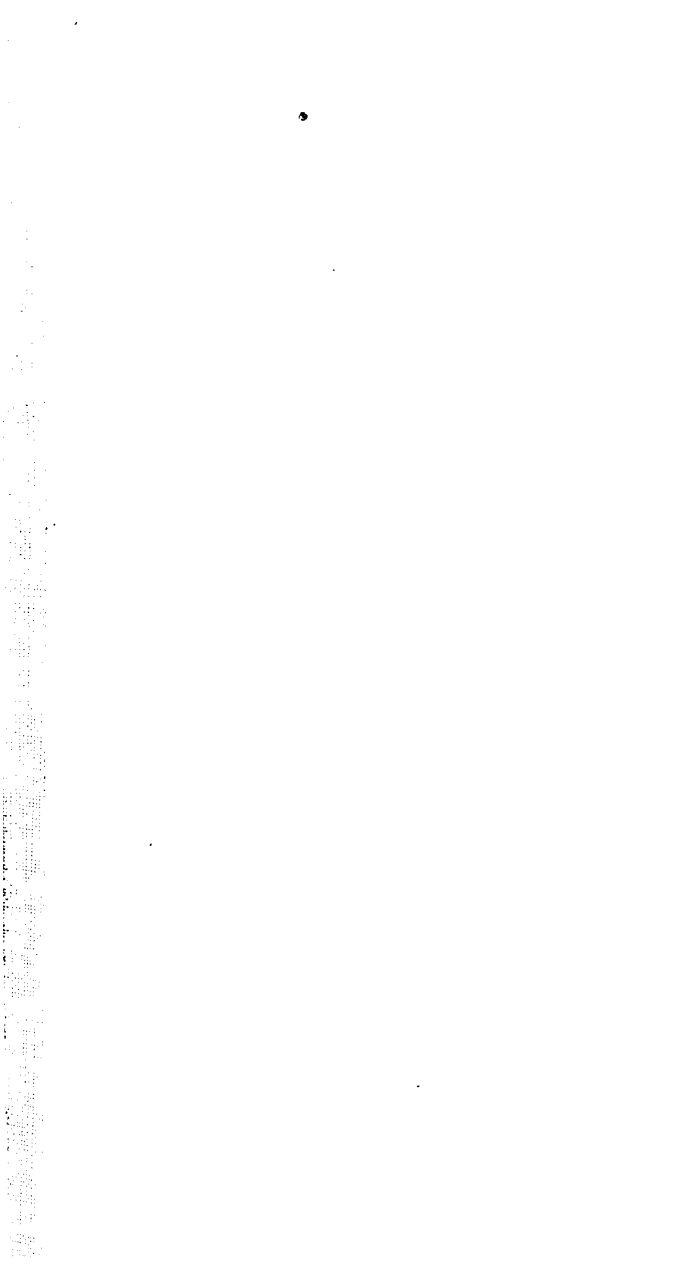
5. That private masses were not to be used.

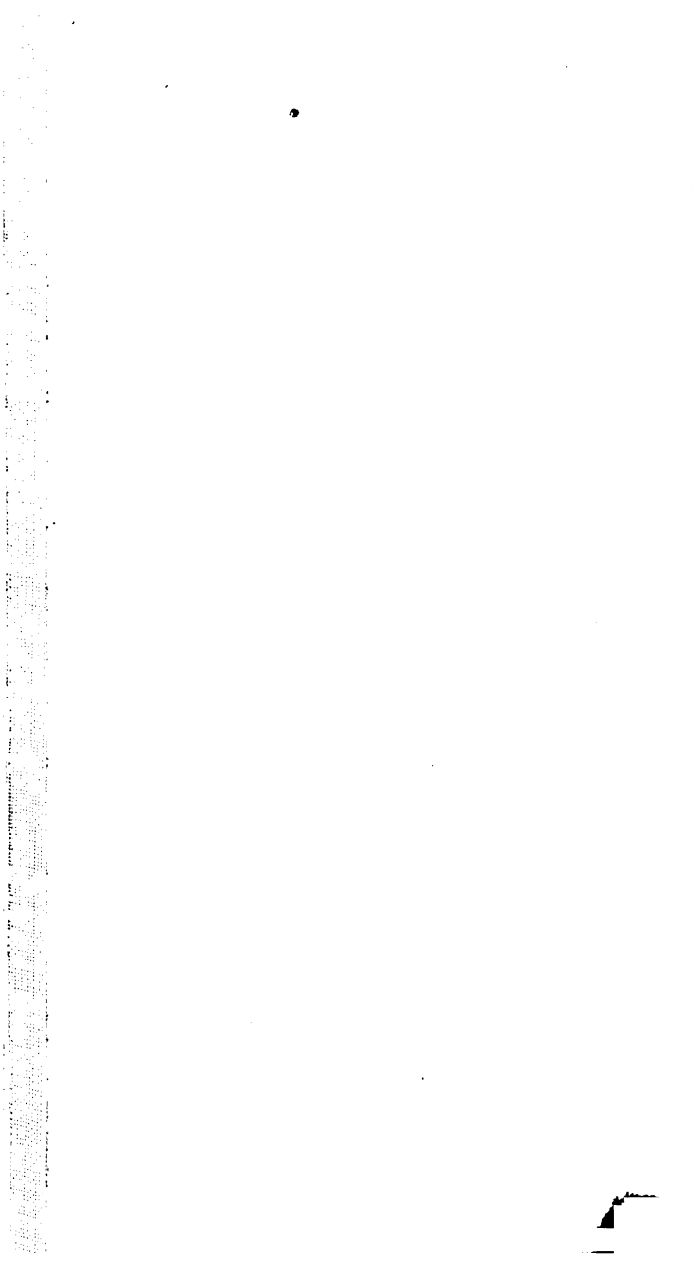
6. That auricular confession was not necessary to the church.

N. B. It is incredible what numbers were put to death during this reign; namely, Papists for denying the king's supremacy; and Protestants for denying the real presence in the sacrament,

END OF VOL. II.









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